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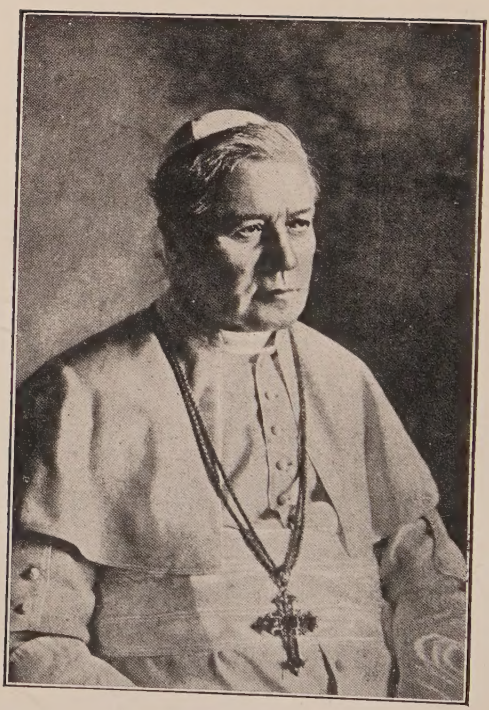

Deus adimpleat omnem
benedictionem bonam in eum
ad sacerdotium vocatum
die 2 Aprilis 1911.

Pius PP. X

"Vocations"

CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION, ETC., INTO THE CONVENTS, CONGREGATIONS SOCIETIES, RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES ETC., ACCORDING TO AUTHENTICAL INFORMATION AND THE LATEST REGULATIONS.

BY

REV. H. HOHN.

Doctor in Theology: Licentiate in Canon Law.

AUTHOR OF "VOCATIONS" (MEN), "RETREAT HANDBOOK," "MARRIAGE GUIDE BOOK," "MISSION BOOK," ETC., ETC.

Preface by His Eminence Cardinal Francis Bourne,
Archbishop of Westminster and Metropolitan.

:o:

"You have not chosen me; but I have chosen you;"—"If the world hate you, know ye, that it hath hated me before you." JOHN XV., 16—18.

:o:

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Religious Orders of Women in U.S.
Elinor Tong Dehey
(W. B. Conkey Co. Hammond,

"A veritable encyclopedia on religious orders of women"
Ave Maria

DEDICATED

TO HIS EMINENCE

The Most Rev. Francis Cardinal Bourne

ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER AND METROPOLITAN

FOR WHOM

THE AUTHOR ENTERTAINS THE GREATEST ADMIRATION AND MOST

FILIAL AFFECTION

Imprimatur.

EDM : CAN : SURMONT, D.D.

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PREFACE

FROM the earliest days of the Christian Church devout souls have been inspired by the Holy Spirit to band themselves together in order to serve God more perfectly, and to give aid and comfort to their suffering fellow creatures. Especially since the destruction of so many works of charity in the French Revolution the number of Institutes of Religious Women has been almost indefinitely multiplied; and there are few, even among the Clergy, who could give a complete list of these pious societies, or attempt an accurate account of their foundation and history. Dr. Hohn's work will supply the knowledge which is wanting to so many, and all those who are interested in the manifold manifestations of Catholic devotion and activity will find in its pages concise and very useful information.

But his book has a higher and more important purpose. There are many souls whom God calls to a more perfect life who are at loss to determine in what Order or Congregation they may find the fullest realization of their holy aspirations. The pages of this book will help

them in their choice and tell them to whom they may apply for further guidance.

We commend this work to all those for whom, with so much care, it has been compiled, and we are satisfied that it will be of real service to very many.

FRANCIS CARDINAL BOURNE.

September 29th, 1912.

INTRODUCTION

THE motto, universally revered—"*Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*" —has ever been in my mind while securing and arranging the many interesting facts regarding religious "Vocations," and it is with the same motto before me that I now confidently place this second * volume (*Vocations for Women*) in the hands of the publishers.

In doing so I wish to point out that no effort has been made to include those pious Associations, Societies, etc., so numerous and useful in the Church of God at large, which, though "tolerated" by the Ecclesiastical authorities, have not as yet met with the explicit approbation of the Church in general and more particularly of the Holy See Herself as finally approved Religious Congregations.

If in this present volume, some of the Congregations therein enumerated—in all no less than 150—appear to be more barren in point of description than their great works for God and His Church or their long history would seem to warrant, the reader will please kindly attribute this partly to the exigencies of space and to the particular emergency the book is intended to meet, and partly also to the very modest and uncalled for reticence which, I regret to say, my repeated inquiries have met with in a few solitary instances.

It remains now for me to tender my grateful thanks to those who have so readily furnished me with so much useful information, and also to the Right Rev. Dr. Louis Charles Casartelli, Bishop of Salford, and E. A. Emery, Esq., whose great kindness and ardent appreciation for the Religious life have put at my service their time, patience and learning.

DR. H. HOHN.

September 12th, 1912.
Feast of the Holy Name of Mary.

---

* The first Volume, *Vocations for Men*, by the same author (published in 1910; R. & T. Washbourne, London, and Benziger Brothers, New York, 2s. 6d. nett) has been given a most cordial welcome in both the Old and the New Worlds.

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Adoration Reparatrice (Institute of)

* * *

Object of the Institute :—

The object of the Institute of Adoration Réparatrice is Perpetual Adoration of the most Holy Sacrament exposed day and night in a spirit of Reparation.*

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be strong enough for fulfilling the duties of the society's religious life, where laborious work is required (between times given to prayer) in a spirit of reparation, and also for rising during the night for adoration.

To be of good and respectable parents, be gifted with a sound judgment and have good dispositions.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is required for the Community Sisters and also for the Auxiliary Sisters. This however is in some cases dispensed with by the Holy See, which approved the Constitutions of the Institute in 1883.

---

* It was founded at Strasbourg amidst the turmoil of the Revolution in 1854 by a rich Belgian lady, *née* Emily d'Oultremont, known in Religion as Mother Mary of Jesus.

The Sisters also receive in the house of solitude, attached to the Convent, pious persons who wish to make a Retreat or spend a few days of recollection in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed day and night upon the Altar. These Retreats are not preached ; they are made individually, but assistance is given upon application.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are accepted from sixteen to twenty-five years of age.

Certificates and References required :—

In addition to the Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation, good references, for the Candidates, as well as for their families, are required from the parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate :—

For Community Sisters as well as Auxiliary Sisters a "Postulation" of at least six months is required. This is followed by two years of Noviciate.

The Auxiliary Sisters have a life less contemplative. They help the choir-nuns in certain household duties, and fulfil those that the Community Sisters cannot undertake on account of the enclosure.*

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

For both Community and Auxiliary Sisters the Clothing takes place after six months Postulate. After two years of Noviciate, the Community Sisters take vows for five years,

---

* The Auxiliary Sisters wear a plainer dress to facilitate their work: their habit is black, a white veil, a blue girdle and scapular.
The habit of the Community Sisters (choir-nuns) is white serge, with a pale blue girdle, blue scapular and veil. When in choir, each nun wears a long court train or cloak of white serge, with a pale blue border and a white choir-veil.

and after that time, perpetual vows. After two years of Noviciate, the Auxiliary Sisters take annual vows during ten consecutive years, followed by perpetual vows.

Future Employment :—

After the Profession, the Sisters are sent to the different houses of the Congregation, where the life is always the same : Perpetual adoration and manual work, especially all that concerns Church work—Altar Breads, Vestments for the Altar, embroideries, etc.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Mother House, 36 rue d'Ulm, Paris, France.

Other Establishments :—

In England : London, 28 Beaufort Street, Chelsea, S.W.; Liverpool, 307 Edge Lane.

In France : Lyon, Châlons, Lille, Reims.

The Society has also convents in Italy, Belgium, Spain, Germany, Mexico, Africa, Jerusalem, etc.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

England : The Superioress, London, Chelsea; or Liverpool, Edge Lane.

Others : as above.

Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
(of Montmartre)*

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

It devotes itself to the intentions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The celebration of the Divine Office, perpetual Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Prayer for the universal Church and for the Country in which the Convent is established. Separation from the world, penance, intellectual and manual work, family life are also characteristic features of the Institute.

Habit :—

Tunic, white for the Choir Nuns, black for the Lay Sisters, scapular of a brown red shade, black veil with under-veil, etc., of white linen, choir cloak white.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Satisfactory health is required. A widow or a person having been in another

* The Institute was canonically founded in 1897, at Paris, on the Mount of Martyrs, in connexion with the Basilica of the National Vow to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In 1901 the Community having left France in consequence of the persecution against the religious Orders, was called by his Eminence the late Cardinal Vaughan to establish a House in memory of the Tyburn Martyrs. A few years ago, under the patronage of his Eminence Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Mechlin, a House of the Congregation was founded, with a Noviciate attached to it, on the hill of Koekelberg overlooking Brussels and where the National Basilica to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is being erected.

religious Order could not be admitted, ordinarily speaking. Above all the Candidates must be drawn to the religious state and the contemplative vocation by supernatural motives, desirous to share in the poverty and sufferings of our Lord.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A pension is paid during the time of the Postulate and Noviciate. The dowry required of the Choir Nuns is £600, of the Lay Sisters, £20. Dispensation of these conditions may be obtained in part, in special cases.

Age of Candidates :—

The age fixed by rule is not under fifteen and, unless in exceptional cases, not over thirty.

Preparatory Training or Studies :—

For Choir Nuns, a good education is required, and musical aptitudes as well as a certain knowledge of Latin, although not absolutely necessary, are desirable.

Certificates, References, etc., required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation, reliable information attesting legitimate birth, irreproachable character, etc.

Noviciate, Profession, etc. :—

The Postulate lasts from six to ten months for Choir Postulants, from seven to twelve months for Lay Postulants. The Noviciate lasts from one year to fifteen months for Choir

Novices, from one year to eighteen months for Lay Sisters. After the Noviciate the three vows of Religion are made annually during three years, and afterwards Perpetual Vows are taken. During the three years of temporary vows, the young Professed remain under Noviciate training, and the Profession of Perpetual Vows is immediately preceded by a time of very special preparation called Probation, lasting six months, and by a retreat of thirty days.

Employment :—

In the intervals of the spiritual exercises, religious studies, manual work, etc. Besides, the Congregation may embrace Eucharistic works and a few other works of zeal compatible with contemplative life.

Address of Noviciates :—

English Noviciate: Tyburn Convent, A.S.H., 6 Hyde Park Place, London, W.

Noviciate in Belgium: 2 Avenue du Duc Jean, Plateau de Koekelberg, Bruxelles.

For Application or further information, apply to:—

England: The Mother Superior, 6 Hyde Park Place, London.

Annonciades*

* * *

Object of the Order :—

The object of the Order of the Annonciades, which is contemplative and active, is to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary by the imitation of her virtues.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health sufficient to keep the Rule and to be of sound judgment is requisite. Candidates must also be of respectable parentage and have good dispositions for the Religious life.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

For Choir Nuns a dowry of £400 is required ; also a suitable outfit and a certain pension for boarding during the time of probation.

No dowry is required for Lay Sisters, but they are expected to have a sufficient outfit, and to be healthy and strong.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen to forty years of age.

Preparatory Training :—

Choir Nuns are expected to have a good solid education.

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* The Order was founded in 1501 by St. Jeanne de Valois, daughter of Louis XI of France. The Order was approved by Pope Alexander VI.

In the case of Lay Sisters an ordinary elementary education and a good knowledge of the Catholic Faith is sufficient.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificate of Baptism.

b. Certificate of Confirmation.

c. References from the parish priest, spiritual director or a religious community.

Time of Noviciate :—

The time of Noviciate comprises about eighteen months before profession, and three years after.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing is generally supposed to take place after a postulation of three or more months, and the Profession at the end of year or thereabouts.

The habit is grey with a red scapular in memory of the Passion. The guimpe is white, and the nuns wear at Mass and Ceremonies a white cloak over their habit.

Future Employment :—

Choir Nuns, daily recitation of the Divine Office, needlework, etc. Lay Sisters perform the usual housework.

Establishments of the Order :—

England : Convent of the Annonciade, St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe, Dover.

France : At Villeneuve-sur-Lot (Garonne).

Belgium : At Tirlemont; Gheel and Merxen.

Before the French Revolution the Order had numerous houses in France and Belgium.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior, Convent of the Annonciade, St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe, near Dover.

Assumptionists

(Little Sisters of the Assumption, also known as Nursing Sisters of the Poor.)

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

Nursing the sick poor *exclusively* day and night, in their own homes, whatever may be their religious belief; and while tending their bodily wants the Sisters have as a secondary object the sanctification of the souls of those under their care. The Sisters also give religious instruction upon application.*

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is required, and the absence of hereditary disease, fair education, a serious practical turn of mind, and a sound judgment. Without being an austere one, the life of "The Little Sisters of the Assumption" needs absolute self-abnegation for the practice of poverty, obedience and devotedness to their work, and of zeal for the salvation of souls.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Community demands no fixed dowry,

* The Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Assumption was founded in Paris, in 1864, by Father Etienne Pernet, of the Augustinian Fathers of the Assumption, and by Mother Mary de Jésus, *née* Antoinette Fage. The habit of the Sisters is black; a white linen coif and bandeau across the forehead are worn under a black veil.

but respectability is required. Arrangements may be made with the local Superioress, as to trousseax, and pension for the postulancy and noviciate.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted from eighteen up to the age of thirty. Other persons who possess suitable qualifications may be admitted by exception.

Preparatory training :—

To have a Hospital training, a knowledge of ambulance work, etc., is useful, but not needed.

Certificates and References required :—

Baptismal certificate, and marriage certificate of father and mother, with a reference from the parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing, Profession :—

A Postulancy of at least six months is followed by two years Noviciate. One year is devoted to spiritual formation, the second year to the special work of their calling—nursing the sick poor.

Profession follows the Noviciate, after which the Religious take simple perpetual vows

Future Employment :—

The Sisters are solely and entirely employed

in nursing the sick poor in their own homes; with one hour's mental prayer, daily recitation of the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin in choir, one hour's spiritual reading, the Rosary, and a short visit to the Blessed Sacrament. One day's monthly retreat, one week's yearly retreat, is made in every establishment.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

57 Rue Violet Grenelle, Paris.

Other Establishments :—

133 Lancaster Road, Notting Hill, W., where English Postulants are received.

14 Wellington Road, Bow, E. 6 Earl Street, Westminster, S.W.

7 Chapel Field, Norwich, Norfolk.

The Congregation has also Houses in Ireland, America, Belgium, Italy, and South America. (See *Catholic Directory*.)

For Application or further information, apply to :—

England: The Superioress, 133 Lancaster Road, Notting Hill, London, W.

Assumptionists
(The Oblates of the Assumption)

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Object of the Congregation :—

Teaching (high and poor Schools), Visitation of the Poor, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Training School for Religious Vocations (Girls thirteen to eighteen years of age), Foreign Missions (optional).

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health, sound judgment, honourable family.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

By Rule £20 annuity is required. This condition however is not essential and Candidates well recommended for honourability and intellectual capacity are even received without dowry.

The Congregation has no lay Sisters.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen to thirty years of age.

The Congregation has, in connection with their Convents *Alumneums* preparatory schools, where they train and form, in view of Religious life, girls above twelve years old, who show by their piety and aspiration indication of a vocation. The

material conditions for the admission of well-gifted children of honourable parents, are very modest, and according to the means of the family.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth and Baptism.

References—from the priest qualified to give it (director or parish priest) and from one or two well known persons of honour.

Time of Noviciate :—

The term of Noviciate is two years.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

Clothing takes place when good security is given as to religious vocation. After two years Noviciate, the Profession takes place with annual Vows for *ten* years; after which period of time, the professed nun can be admitted to take perpetual Vows.

The Congregation has Houses in Belgium, France, Turkey, Bulgaria and Asia.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Our Lady of Grace, High Combe, Charlton, Kent.

Augustinians

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation of the Nuns of St. Augustine has for its object, in addition to self-sanctification, the care and treatment of persons suffering from mental maladies, of both sexes.

The Congregation was founded at Bruges in Belgium, in 1841, by the Very Rev. Canon Maes.

Health and qualifications for Candidates :—

Only Candidates of sound and healthy constitution gifted with good disposition for the Religious life may apply for admission, inasmuch as the state of life they wish to enter upon is laborious and painful, not from any earthly motive but solely for the love of God and of their neighbour, to devote their whole energies, their talents and their very lives to lightening that which is, perhaps, the heaviest burden imposed by Divine Providence on suffering humanity.

Pecuniary means required for Admission ;—

Generally speaking, in addition to a good outfit, a dowry sufficient to cover at least the boarding expenses for the time of probation, is required.

Exceptions may be made especially in the

case of well educated and talented Candidates, viz. in Hospital training, etc.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates seeking admission must be at least eighteen and not more than thirty years of age.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism, and Confirmation.

References from the parish priest and spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate :—

In addition to a more or less prolonged probation time, the Sisters have to be postulants for at least six months.

The Noviciate lasts two years.

The Rule of the Augustinian Nuns is that of St. Augustine, with Constitutions to suit the special needs of the Congregation.

Future Employment :—

Besides the ordinary duties of Conventual life, such as reciting the Office, Meditation, etc., the Sisters have the care and treatment of patients of weak intellect or afflicted with idiocy.

Postal Address of Mother House :—

St. Julien's Hospice, Bruges, Belgium.

Other Establishments :—

England : St. George's Retreat, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

Belgium : Bruges, Courtray, and Cortenberg.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

The Mother House as above, or to : Mother Superior, St. George's Retreat, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

Auxiliatricians

(Sisters of Marie Auxiliatrice)

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Object of the Society :—

The sanctification of its members by means of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, made in a spirit of reparation and zeal and by other exercises of the Religious life. The works of zeal and charity are chiefly comprised in looking after young girls of the working class, employed in shops or business houses in large towns far from their families and thus exposed to all kinds of danger. The Society, for this purpose has particularly founded for them houses, where for moderate price, they can enjoy great advantages, on condition that they accept being under vigilant protection, such as Christian mothers would exercise in like manner. This work also comprises various Meetings on Sundays for non-residents. The Society has also founded sanatoriums for young girls ranging from six to thirty years of age, suffering from anæmia or for those already attacked by Pulmonary Tuberculosis. In England there is an Orphanage and House for young girls in business. In Italy, the

Society has a Boarding School for high-class girls.*

Health and respective qualifications :—

Legitimacy, health, an upright judgment and vocation suitable to the Order, is required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is necessary for a Choir Nun. The Sacred Congregation however can dispense with it when the Candidate furnishes the Society with great advantages.

Lay Sisters are admitted without a dowry, but they are expected to have a sufficient outfit, and to enjoy good health.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants seeking admission must not be more than thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

The Candidate ought to be able to write, at least to be able to write their mother tongue correctly.

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* The Society was founded in 1854 by Sophie de Soubirau at Castelnaudary (Aude), France. The habit of choir-sisters is black. The guimpe is of unstarched white linen, which surrounds the face, and is cut square on the breast. The veil is of black merino. In choir the Sisters add a long veil of thin black material, which reaches to the hem of the habit.

The lay-sisters wear a small black handkerchief, and a black apron instead of a scapular, and a fichu of white calico instead of a guimpe. They also wear a white cap trimmed with one plain row of jaconet muslin, and a black merino veil over it.

A sufficient knowledge of the Catholic Faith is also necessary.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Birth Certificate.
b. Certificate of Baptism.
c. Doctor's Certificate to show that the Candidate is not subject to any hereditary illness.
d. Strict references concerning the Candidate's conduct and respectability of the family.
e. References from a priest, parish priest, or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate :—

Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters have to be six months postulants, before their Clothing. After the Clothing the Noviciate is entered upon, which lasts two years.

Course of Profession :—

The ordinary course is :
Two periods of vows, each of three years.
After six years of Profession, perpetual vows are made.
The Rule of the Society is that of St. Ignatius.

Future Employment :—

The employment of each subject, varies according to the House to which she be

sent, and according to her aptitudes. (See Object of the Society.)

Postal Address of :—

Mother House: 25 Rue de Maubeuge, Paris.

The Noviciate is at Champrosay, near Draveil (Seine et Oise).

Other Establishments :—

The Society of Marie Auxiliatrice has Houses in France, England, and Italy. See Catholic Directories.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

Rev. Mother: 25 Rue de Maubeuge, Paris.

Benedictines *

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Object of the Order :—

The primary object of the Benedictine Nuns is self-sanctification by enclosure and separation from the world : solemn celebration of the Divine Office, offering to God a daily sacrifice of praise to which, as St. Benedict teaches, nothing is to be preferred. In some cases the Nuns also undertake the education of the young.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Those who are notably defective in body or mind, and those who are in danger of continual sickness cannot be admitted.

An hereditary disease in the family and illegitimacy are obstacles to reception.

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* The Order was founded by the Saint himself in the early part of the sixth century (520). The first English Benedictine Nunnery was the Abbey of Folkestone, founded in A.D. 630, which was afterwards destroyed by the Danes. Under the superintendance of Bishop Ullathorne the Constitutions (of A.D. 1612) were revised and adapted to modern use in 1881.

According to the Rule of St. Benedict they make the vows of Stability, to persevere in the Religious state as Benedictines ; of Conversion of Manners—to strive after perfection to the best of their ability ; of Obedience which includes Poverty and Chastity.

The habit of the nuns, similar to that of the monks, is a black woollen tunic gathered in at the neck and girded at the waist with a leathern girdle ; over this is a scapular of the same material as the habit. The head-dress consists of a plain linen wimple and fillet, and a white under-veil covered with a black one. In choir a cowl is worn. It consists of a habit of black serge closely pleated at the neck and hanging in folds to the feet.

A good reputation and good dispositions are necessary.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A Choir Nun is expected to bring a dowry of £1000, but some special qualification, either for teaching or some other useful branch, is sometimes accepted as a substitute, according to circumstances and the judgment of superiors.

A dowry is not expected of a Lay Sister.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen to thirty years of age.

Preparatory training required :—

A candidate for a Choir Nun should be on the whole well educated, and she should be prepared to study Latin in the noviciate if she does not know it on entrance.

For a Lay Sister it is desirable that she be able to read and write.

Certificates and References required :—

The certificate of Baptism is required, and if possible the birth register. A recommendation from the parish priest, spiritual director, or other priest duly authorised, is always sought.

Time of Noviciate :—

A year of postulancy is required. Should good

reasons require it, the time of postulancy may even be prolonged.

The noviciate lasts a canonical year and a day.

The duration of postulancy and noviciate is the same for choir and lay novices.

During the year's noviciate, the Rule and the religious life are learned, and the choir novices spend their time in sacred studies and manual work.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

A postulant receives the "little habit" of a postulant after three or four weeks in the secular dress.

At the end of a year from entrance the Clothing may take place.

At the end of another year the Profession.

Future Employment :—

After Profession the nuns devote themselves to regular religious observance, attendance at the choir, and the duties given them by obedience—either teaching in the school, Church embroidery, or domestic work; some amount of the latter is done by all.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

St. Mary's Abbey, East Bergholt (formerly at Brussels), is the Mother House, but the Houses are really independent of each other.

The noviciate is local, and the community is subject to the Bishop of the diocese.

Other Establishments :—

St. Mary's Abbey, Oulton : originally from Ghent in Flanders.

Other monasteries connected with this of Oulton are St. Scholastica's Abbey, Teignmouth (formerly at Dunkerque) and the Abbey of Our Lady of Grace at Ypres in Flanders. These are both filiations from Oulton Abbey when at Ghent ; and were established in the years 1660 and 1665 respectively. Canonically they are independent of each other, since each House is under the jurisdiction of the Ordinary.

There are also Priories and Abbeys of the same Order at Atherstone, Colwich, Princethorpe, Stanbrook, Cowes, Ryde and Ventnor (I. of W.).

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Lady Abbess, Oulton Abbey, Stone, Staffs.

Others : to the Priories or Abbeys as above.

Bon Sauveur Sisters *

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Object of the Congregation :—

In addition to the sanctification of its members the Congregation has for its object Primary and Secondary teaching, Nursing, Deaf and Dumb Training, etc.

Health and respective qualifications required :—

No subject is accepted having any hereditary disease. Health must be good enough to follow the community life. The family must be respectable, and the applicant must have a fixed determination to devote herself to the service of God in the Congregation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

As the Congregation has its own resources there is no special rule, the chief aim being good sound education and true vocation.

The Convent of du Bon Sauveur in England being purely for higher education, Degrees and Teaching Certificates are accepted as dowries.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are not accepted as a general rule under twenty years of age.

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* The Congregation was founded at Caen (France) in the year 1712, and a branch was formerly established at Saint Lô in 1726.

Preparatory training :—

In some special cases subjects may be accepted to be prepared for the noviciate after sixteen years of age.

For Lay Sisters nothing special is required.

Certificates and References required :—

Birth and Baptismal Certificates; A reference from a priest who knows the family and from employers for Lay Sisters. Besides this a personal interview is required for Choir Sisters.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate lasts two years for all. The habit is given at the end of the first year. Profession and perpetual vows are made at the end of the second year.

Future Employment :—

In England :
Choir Sisters are employed in Education.

In Ireland :
Care of Private Home for Nervous Disorders.

Lay Sisters perform the household duties and possibly assist the Choir Sister.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Mother House : Mother General, Congregation du Bon Sauveur, Caen (Calvados).

Noviciate: Mother Superior, Convent du Bon Sauveur, Holyhead.

Other Establishments :—

France :
Convent du Bon Sauveur, Caen, Calvados.
Albi, Caen.
Pont l'Abbé, Picauville.
Bégard, Côtes du Nord.

Ireland :
Carriglea, Dungarvan, Waterford.

Spain :
Casa Erasme, San Felui de Llobregat, Barcelona.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superioress, Ucheldhe Park, Holyhead.

Others ; as above.

Bon Secours (De Paris) *

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The chief object of the Bon Secours Sisters is the care of the sick in their own homes, rich and poor, without any distinction of creed.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health and a sound judgment is requisite.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Being otherwise satisfied with the Applicant the question of a dowry may be overlooked.

It is, however, always supposed that the Candidate has a sufficient outfit lasting at least her probation time.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted from the age of eighteen upwards. They must show probable signs of a religious vocation, and

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* The Congregation of the Bon Secours Sisters was founded in Paris by the Archbishop Hyacinthe Louis de Guélen in the year 1824, and was formally approved by the Holy See in 1875. On application to the Mother Superior she sends a Sister trained nurse to the house of the sick person. This Sister attends in the sick-room, during the night and a portion of the day, taking, in obedience to her Rule, at least six hours' rest every day. Their meals are served separately.

The habit is black ; a white cap with a frilled border covered with a black veil is the head-wear.

although preferable, yet a special education is not required.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and a good reference from the parish priest or spiritual director are required.

Future Employment :—

See Object of the Congregation.

The Bon Secours have Establishments almost in every country. See Catholic Directories.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, 166 Westbourne Grove, London, W.

Bon Secours (De Troyes)*

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The characteristic feature of the Bon Secours Sisters of Troyes is that they devote themselves almost exclusively to the nursing of the sick, in their own homes, rich or poor, Catholic or non-Catholic. No fixed charge is made for their most valuable and unselfish services, whether short or long, when nursing those who can afford to pay, but, having no other means of subsistence, the good Sisters thankfully receive any remuneration for the support of the Community.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is necessary. To be the legitimate child of a healthy family, with no insanity in it or any other hereditary diseases, is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A small dowry is required according to means.

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* This Congregation was founded by a priest, Father Millet, at Troyes (Aube) France, in the year 1840. In 1843 the Mother-house was moved to Troyes and henceforth the Sisters were known as the "Bon Secours de Troyes," whose Constitutions were approved by the Holy See in 1863. This Congregation introduced into these countries is regarded as an invaluable boon both to rich and poor. The Congregation has not less than one hundred and twenty-seven houses in various parts of the world, with members of all nationalities. Their habit is black, the head-wear consists of a white guimpe, a small black cap and a black veil.

Postulants though poor and not able to afford more than a suitable outfit may be admitted gratuitously provided they have all the necessary qualifications.

To have been professed in any other Order or Congregation is an impediment to entering the Congregation.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are accepted from the age of sixteen to thirty.

Preparatory training :—

A fairly good education is required; to be able to read and write. A knowledge of languages is an advantage.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation.

b. Certificate of good morals from the parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate lasts three years in all.

One year before Clothing and two more y ears before taking the Vows.

Future Employmeut :—

Nursing the sick in their homes as under Object of the Congregation.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Bon Secours de Troyes, Troyes, Aube, France.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Bon Secours, 58 Bignor Street (Sefton Villa), Cheetham, Manchester.

Others : see Catholic Directories.

Bridgettine Nuns *

(Order of Our Most Holy Saviour. Called "Bridgettine" after the Foundress, St. Bridget of Sweden)

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Object of the Order :—

The Order is a Contemplative one. Its chief objects are; devotion to the Passion of Christ, the honour of His Holy Mother, and self-sanctification.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants to be mentally and physically strong. By Rule the members of the Community are never to be idle, but to spend their spare time, between mental or

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* The Bridgettine Nuns occupy a unique position in the history of this country, they being the only English pre-reformation Community existing.

The Order was founded by St. Birgit or Bridget of Sweden, and the first monastery of the Order was at Wadstena in Sweden in 1396. Thirty-five years after the canonization of St. Bridget, Henry V laid the foundation stone of Sion House, Middlesex, February 22, 1413, and invited some of the monks and nuns from the Mother-house in Sweden to England for this new foundation.

This monastery was suppressed by Henry VIII, though at the time the Bridgettines were one of the three Orders most celebrated for their piety, the Carthusians and Franciscans Observants being the other two.

Some of the monks and nuns went into exile, but were restored to their old monastery of Sion by Queen Mary.

Under Elizabeth the monastery was again suppressed and its inmates once more went into exile. They settled in Termonde, Flanders, but owing to the persecutions of the Lutherans they had to fly from city to city, and from country to country, until they finally found a resting place in Lisbon, where they remained for two hundred and sixty-seven years. In the year 1861 they returned to England after an exile of three hundred and two years.

vocal prayer, etc., in "working" for the Church or for the poor "with their hands."

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is required for Choir Nuns. A few, when vacancies occur, can be received without. No dowry is required for Lay Sisters, but they must have ability to become useful members of the Order.

Age of Candidates :—

By Rule there is no age limit for admission. Preference however is given to those under thirty.

Preparatory training :—

Choir Nuns—Candidates should be well educated.

In the case of a Lay Sister nothing special is required.

Certificates and References required :—

In addition to the usual Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation, the addresses of two referees must be given. One of the referees to be a priest.

Time of Noviciate :—

The time of Noviciate for Choir Nuns is five years in all; two years before Profession, and three years after.

Six years of Noviciate for Lay Sisters; three years before Profession, and three after.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing takes place one year after admittance, and the Profession another year after the Clothing.

For Lay Sisters the Clothing takes place two years after admittance, and the Profession one year after the Clothing.

The habit of the Bridgettine Choir Nun is of an iron-grey colour, over which, in choir, she wears a cowl and mantle of the same colour as the habit. On the head she wears a black veil and a white linen crown, upon which are sewn five pieces of red cloth, in the form of a cross—symbolical of the five Wounds of Our Lord.

The Sisters wear a gold ring with a seal representing a Calvary.

The habit of the Lay Sisters is grey like that of the Choir Nuns, but instead of a cowl a scapular is worn and a white Maltese cross is sewn on the left shoulder of the mantle, with five red circles, symbolical of the Five Wounds. The wimple and veil are white.

Future Employment :—

For Choir Nuns : the Divine Office in Choir, the lighter kinds of domestic work, needlework, study and literary work.

For Lay Sisters, the domestic work of the

Convent. These latter say privately the Little Office of Our Lady each day.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate:—
Syon Abbey, Chudleigh, South Devon.

For Application or further information, apply to :—
Lady Abbess, Syon Abbey (as above).

Sisters of St. Brigid, Ireland *

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Object of the Congregation :—

a. The Sanctification of its members.

b. The Religious and Secular instruction of children of various ranks, in Schools, and Religious Instruction of adults, as recommended by Parochial Clergy.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is necessary, and for Choir Sisters good education, or ability for becoming Teachers in Primary, or Secondary Schools.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

For Choir Sisters a yearly pension is required during the Noviciate Term (two and a half years). Dower at Profession.

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* The Congregation was founded by Rt. Rev. Dr. Delany, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, in the year 1807, with the object of repairing as far as possible the effects—truly deplorable—of the penal laws from which the Catholics of Ireland, representing close upon nine-tenths of the population of the country at that epoch, were suffering. Indeed it was not until the year 1782 that Catholic education and worship ceased to be a crime, punishable by a £20 fine and three months' imprisonment. From the time of the Reformation up to that year Catholics were bound under pain of fine and imprisonment to testify by oath before two justices of the peace, where and when they heard the Popish (so termed in several statutes) Mass celebrated, and also the names of the persons celebrating and present at it (7th Wil. III, § 9, A.D. 1695; *Irish Statutes*, vol. III, pp. 254, 259. 8th Anne, § 21, A.D. 1709; *Irish Statutes*, vol. IV, p. 201).

The Rule is that of St. Augustine, adapted to meet the Object of the Congregation.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are accepted between eighteen and thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

Candidates can prepare by taking Intermediate, or other advanced exams. under the Educational Boards.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificates from above-named Boards.
b. Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation.
c. Letter of Recommendation from parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate lasts two entire years for all.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing usually takes place after six months postulancy for Choir Sisters, and twelve months for Lay Sisters. Profession, two years after Clothing for both classes of Sisters.

Future Employment :—

Choir Sisters, teaching in Schools. Lay Sisters, domestic employments. See also 'Object of the Congregation.'

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Brigidine Convent, Tullow, Co. Carlow, Ireland.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has several Convents in Australia, in different dioceses of the Provinces of New South Wales and Victoria, and also in New Zealand.

At Tullow, Mountrath, Abbeyleix, and Goresbridge, Ireland, they have Boarding Schools which afford every facility for acquiring a solid Religious and Secular education in accordance with the requirements of the present time.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General, Brigidine Convent, Tullow, Co. Carlow.

Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre
(Founded in the beginning of the twelfth century)

* * *

Object of the Order :—

Although as a Contemplative Order, personal sanctification, by mortification, recitation of Divine Office, etc., is its chief object, the Canonesses also undertake the education of young girls. The Rule of the Canonesses is that of St. Augustine. The particular constitutions added were approved by Pope Urban VIII. These judiciously combine the duties of the active and of the contemplative lives.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Although the life of the Canonesses is that of interior mortification rather than of external austerity, yet the applicant's health must be good enough to support the Community life. Lay Sisters must be suitable to their work.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Besides a good outfit, a dowry is required and scarcely ever dispensed with in the case of a Choir Nun.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates for the Order are admitted from the age of eighteen upwards.

Preparatory training :—

A fairly good education is required in the case of a Choir Nun.

For Lay Sisters nothing special is required.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificate of Birth.

b. Certificate of Baptism.

c. Certificate of Confirmation.

d. References from parish priest or spiritual director as the case may be.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term of postulancy is at least six months. After the Clothing the Noviciate is entered upon, which extends over one canonical year at least, and is followed by Profession. The nuns have annual retreats and make an annual renewal of vows.

The habit is of black serge. A white linen rochet, without sleeves, bearing on its left side a double red cross, is worn over the habit. In choir a long black cloak is worn over the habit. The wimple is white covered with a black veil. The veil of a Novice is white.

The habit of a Lay Sister is black and the veil white. Lay Sisters wear no surplice.

Future Employment :—

After Profession the nuns devote themselves

to regular religious observance (see 'Object of Order'). They rise at four o'clock, and devote an hour to meditation before Matins. The nuns usually work in community, and not alone in their cells.

Before the suppression of monastic institutions under Henry VIII, the Regular Canons and Canonesses of St. Augustine, now branched off in these countries into two different Orders, namely Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre and Canonesses of the Perpetual Adoration, had 115 monasteries in England, and in Ireland the Canonesses alone had as many as 65 convents. At present there is only one convent of the Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre in England, that at New Hall, where they have conducted since 1800 what is considered one of the best higher class young ladies' boarding schools.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

Mother Prioress, New Hall, Chelmsford, Essex.

Canonesses Regular of the Lateran

Also known as Canonesses of Perpetual Adoration *

(Founded by the Windesheim Canons † in 1415)

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Object of the Order:—

The principal and interior object is: Contemplative life, Adoration, recitation of the Divine Office in choir, etc.

Exterior work: Education of girls of the upper classes.

Health and respective qualifications:—

Good health and an irreproachable character are requisite. Candidates must also be of a respectable parentage.

Pecuniary means required for Admission:—

From Choir Nuns a fairly large dowry is demanded.

Lay Sisters are admitted on easier terms, especially when well recommended for their talents and other qualities.

Age of Candidates:—

Postulants can be received from eighteen years upwards.

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* By rescript of Pope Pius IX, dated 15 March, 1860, the nuns have established in their convents Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

† This branch of the Order had the honour of numbering Thomas of Kempis among its members.

Preparatory training :—

A special training is not strictly required. Good education or talents for teaching will be taken into consideration in the question of the dowry.

Certificates and References required :—

Applicants must produce :

a. Certificate of Baptism.

b. Certificate of Confirmation.

c. References from the priest, spiritual director, or previous employer.

Time of Noviciate :—

The time of postulancy is not less than six months. The Noviciate, not less than the canonical year.

The habit of the Choir Nun is of white cloth over which a white linen rochet is always worn, and on feast days a surplice of white linen is worn over the rochet in choir. In winter a black mantle lined with white is added to the rochet. The wimple is white and comes to a point on the forehead, which is almost hidden.

The habit of a Lay Sister is black. They wear a black scapular and a white veil.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

The Cloister of Nazareth, Bruges, Belgium.

Having been suppressed at Burnham, Bucks, by Henry VIII in 1539, the veiled Canonesses of the Lateran founded a convent for English ladies only at Louvain in 1609, and from this the well known "Cloister of Nazareth" at Bruges in 1629.

The Order returned again to England in 1887 and made a foundation at Hayward's Heath, known to-day as the Priory of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

The Canonesses have also Establishments at Hoddesdon and Newton Abbot.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Prioress, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

Others : to the Mother House as above.

Carmelites *

(Religious of the Order of our Blessed Lady of Mount Carmel of the Reform of Saint Teresa)

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Object of the Order :—

The Order is chiefly Contemplative. Object: Continual Prayer for the whole Church of God and its prosperity.

The Constitutions here given under each head are St. Teresa's own.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Let good heed be taken that such as are to be received be persons of prayer and that they only seek perfection and contempt of the world . . . . They are not to be less than

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* The Carmelite Order is, according to tradition, the most ancient in the Catholic Church. It claims as its founder St. Elias, the Prophet who lived nine hundred and twenty-seven years before Christ, in company with other Israelites, on Mount Carmel, where they spent their lives in prayer and meditation. Pope Sixtus, by granting the Order to celebrate the Feast of Saint Elias as their Founder, confirms this assertion.

John Soreth, a Carmelite friar of great sanctity and the twenty-sixth General of the Order, desirous that the Rule of Mount Carmel also should be followed by Nuns, founded a female institute under that name and rule in 1452. In succession five Convents were established. Having grown lax in course of time, St. Teresa, of the Convent of Avila in Castile, reformed the Order to its primitive austerity, and she is considered the foundress of the "Teresian" or "Discalced Carmelites." Her constitutions were approved by Pope Pius IV in 1562.

Hence the division into two main branches—the "Mitigated Carmelites," because the austerity of their Rule was mitigated by Innocent IV, Eugene IV, and Pius II; and those of the strict observance, "Discalced Carmelites" of the reform of St. Teresa.

seventeen years of age, they must be healthy and of good understanding, and they must be fit to say the Divine Office and to help in the choir. They must not be admitted to make their Profession if it hath not been discerned during the year of their Noviceship that they have the conditions which are requisite for that which is observed here (Constit., Chap. II, point 1).

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Being satisfied concerning the person, if she has nothing to give to the House by way of Alms, let them not for all that refuse to receive her, for so hath it hitherto been practised; and if having means she will bestow it and it happens afterwards upon some occasion that it be not given, though in justice it may be demanded, yet it must be done with such moderation as that no scandal may follow upon it (Constit., Chap. II, point 2).

Age of Candidates :—

They are not to be less than seventeen years of age at the time of profession. See above, Constit., Chap. II.

The ceremonial which may differ slightly in each house says that novices are not to be received after the age of forty.

In these days the Nuns *prefer* to have them not younger than eighteen and not older

than twenty-five or twenty-six. As the Constitutions do not allow them more than seventeen Choir Nuns and three Lay Sisters in each of their Convents, to receive many elderly persons is not prudent.

Time of Postulancy and Noviciate ; course of Clothing and Profession :—

Let the Lay Sisters who are to be received be of good and strong constitutions . . . . and let them be a year without the Habit (viz. as postulants) to the end it may be seen whether they be fit or not for what they undertake . . . . They shall not wear the black veil nor have it given them, but they shall make their Profession a year after they have taken the Habit (Constit., Chap. II, point 5).

Choir novices are now bound to six months' postulantship at least, and make perpetual vows from a year after their having been clothed.

The habits for both Choir Sister and Lay Sister are alike : the habit and scapular are brown, the wimple white and the veil black. The Nuns wear sandals and in choir a white mantle over their habit.

Future Employment :—

THE CHIEF POINT of the Rule of the Carmelite Nuns is : "Let every *one remain in her* CELL or near it meditating day and night

upon the law of God and watching in Prayer unless she be busied upon other just employments (*First rule of St. Albert confirmed by Innocent IV*). All the time they are not in Community or in the Offices belonging to it they shall every one remain apart in their Cell . . . . employing themselves in some work upon working days and addressing themselves by means of this solitude towards that for which the Rule ordains that every one remain apart (Constit., Chap. X, point 3).

Establishments of the Order :—

Each of their houses is independent and complete, has its own Noviciate and is under the jurisdiction of the local Bishop.

The Order has six Convents in England and nine in Ireland.

English Convents : Chichester, Darlington, Isleworth, Lanherne, Notting Hill and Wells.

For others see Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Prioress, Convent of Mount Carmel, Chichester.

Cistercian Nuns*

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Object of the Order :—

The Order is strictly contemplative. The Rule enjoins the recital of the Divine Office, manual labour, habitual silence, vigils, continual total abstinence from flesh meat, fowl, fish, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good and reliable health is required. Applicant must also be free from any hereditary or other disease.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

By Rule a small dowry is required for admission, but exceptions are made, in the case of well recommended subjects.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted from the age of eighteen upwards.

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* The Order claims as founder St. Robert, a Benedictine monk who made the foundation of a Monastery at Citeaux (Cistercium—hence the name Cistercians) in 1098.

It has the honour of numbering among its members St. Bernhard, who entered as a novice in 1113, and in his lifetime no less than one hundred and sixty houses were founded. The Cistercian Order has at the present time, in various parts of the world, about one hundred and thirty Convents, a great number of which are Nunneries, and altogether about four thousand nuns. England counts to-day the Convent at Stapehill for women, and the Monastery "Mount St. Bernhard," Leicester, for men. (*See also "Reformed Cistercians," Vol. I, "Vocations for Men."*)

Preparatory training :—

Intending Choir Nuns must have a fairly good education. For Lay Sisters nothing special is required ; their chief occupation is manual work.

Certificates and References required :—

Applicants must produce a good character. Also Certificates of good health, Baptism and Confirmation.

Time of Noviciate, Profession, etc. ;—

A postulancy of about six months is followed by a two years' Noviciate for simple vows and three additional years for solemn vows.

The habit of the Choir Nun is white. In choir a long white cowl with wide sleeves is worn over it. The wimple is white. The veil is black for Professed Nuns and white for Novices. The habit of the Lay Sisters is brown. The latter wear a cloak instead of a cowl.

The Nuns rise at 2.30 a.m. for the chanting of Lauds.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Prioress, Stapehill, Wimborne, Dorset.

Compassionists *

(Congregation of Our Lady of Compassion)

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Object of the Congregation :—

Teaching and nursing the sick is the chief object.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants must enjoy good health. There must be no striking deformity or hereditary disease. Legitimacy is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A pension is to be paid during the Noviciate. Choir Nuns have to bring a dowry according to their circumstances.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are accepted between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five.

The Congregation of Our Lady of Compassion was founded at Marseilles (France) in 1840 by Fr. Barthés, S.J.

The Community which, in addition to the observance of the Conventual life, devotes itself to various works of external charity, has spread its Convents with schools or charitable institutions attached to many of them, over several countries.

A Congregation called "*Sisters of Compassion*" was founded about the same time at St. Firmin (Nancy, France) by l'Abbé Thiriet with the chief object to lodge in their Hospices and care for the poor and abandoned of either sex, to visit and tend to the sick, to train youth and to teach housekeeping to country girls, etc.

Again there is a Congregation of "*Sisters of Compassion*" with their renowned Mother House at St. Hilaire-en-Voëvre by Verdun whose members devote themselves almost exclusively and successfully to the education and training of young ladies.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Nuns a good general education is required. For Lay Sisters nothing special.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation.

References from the Candidate's director, from the school at which she has been brought up, or from those under whose charge she has been at any time.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term is : Six months of Postulancy. Two years of Noviciate.

The first vows in the case of the Choir Nuns are made for five years and are followed by the perpetual vows. Lay Sisters make the first vows for a year only and renew them year by year for seven years, at the end of which they take perpetual vows.

The Sisters' habit is almost entirely black.

Future Employment :—

The Candidate must be at the disposal of the Mother General and be prepared to undertake any work. The Choir Nuns however are usually employed in teaching or nursing either in England, France or Belgium.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

The Mother House is at St. Denis, near

Paris, but Lay Sisters, if English subjects, have their noviciate at Olton. Choir Nuns must spend at least their two years as Novices at St. Denis.

The Congregation has six houses in France, one in Belgium, and two in England.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Olton, Birmingham.

Other addresses : as above.

Congregation des Filles de la Sagesse *

(Daughters of Wisdom)

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Object of the Congregation :—

In addition to self-sanctification through the observance of Conventual life, the Congregation devotes itself to all works of Charity (Hospitals, Care of blind, deaf and dumb Orphanages, Asylums, etc.), and to teaching, elementary and secondary; also to Mission work, at home and abroad.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Subjects must be of legitimate birth, have sufficiently good health to follow the Rule and be of service. Hereditary taint of insanity, epilepsy, scrofula, or other disease is sufficient to disqualify postulants from admission.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Every postulant must be provided with :

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* The Congregation was founded at Poitiers in 1703 by Blessed Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, aided by Mother Marie Louis of Jesus (late Louise Trichet). This saintly and zealous Apostle was born in 1673 in a little Breton village called Montfort-sur-Meu, near Rennes—now a renowned place for pilgrimages; and the house of his residence, "Saint Lazare," having been enlarged and improved by the "Missionary Fathers of the Company of Mary," which Congregation he also founded, has been for some time, previous to the French persecution and confiscation in 1903, a model and eminently successful seminary, chiefly for tardy Vocations for the Priesthood.

1. A trousseau, details of which will be supplied when needed.
2. A dowry, fixed at a minimum of £12 for Choir Sisters and £4 for Lay Sisters. This dowry will be returned in the event of a Postulant leaving. The said dowry must be paid, either on entering or at the time of profession.
3. A sum of £28 for maintenance during the Noviciate, expenses of the first clothing, and other necessary demands.

Age of Candidates :—

From eighteen to twenty-five is the best age to enter; but younger or older persons who possess suitable qualities may be admitted.

Preparatory training :—

A good ordinary education is required. If considered insufficient the instruction of candidates can be supplemented in a training establishment of the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Birth certificate.

b. Certificate of Baptism.

c. Certificate of Confirmation.

Time of Noviciate :—

Postulate,—six months (minimum).

First Noviciate of at least twelve months followed by first vows, temporary and annual.

Second Noviciate of at least five years followed by final, perpetual vows.

The habit of the ordinary Sisters is of an ashy-grey colour, Lay Sisters are clothed in black. The Sisters' headwear consists of a white linen cap which forms a sort of a veil, and out of doors they wear a long black mantle with a hood which covers the linen cap.

Indoors the Sisters wear a large white apron which covers the greater part of their habit.

Future Employment :—

Employment is given according to capacity, talent, etc., but absolutely dependent on the decision of the superiors.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Maison Mère des Filles de la Sagesse, Vendée, France.

Also Noviciates at Ottawa (Canada), Schiuameet (Limbourg, Holland), and San Giorgio, Montferrato, (Italy).

Other Establishments :—

England : Golder's Green, London, N.W., Abbey House, Romsey (Hants), Moorfield House, Preston (Lancs).

The Congregation has many establishments in France, Italy, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Canada, United States, Central Africa, Hayti, etc.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Convent La Sagesse, Golder's Green, London, N.W.

For others : see Catholic Directories respectively.

Congregation of the Holy Family of Nazareth *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The principal work of this Congregation is education of all classes—rich and poor, teaching Catechism, the guidance of Societies and other works of mercy, as the care of Orphanages, Hospitals, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

A Certificate of good health must be produced in all cases.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry demanded for Choir Nuns must not be less than £300; for Lay Sisters £50. The Mother General, with special leave from the Holy See, can, for good reasons, allow a reduction or even a complete remission of these sums. The possession of a Certificate giving leave to teach from the Government will be one of the chief reasons for asking this leave.

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* The spirit of the Congregation of Nazareth was to be the spirit of the Holy Family of Nazareth and for this reason the foundress fixed this title for her Order.

Founded at Rome in 1875, the Congregation was approved by Pope Pius IX.

His Eminence Herbert Cardinal Vaughan invited the Sisters to England in 1896 chiefly for the resident Poles, as it is a Polish foundation.

A trousseau is always required.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are accepted at twenty, or any age when leave from the Holy See and the consent of the Mother General are obtained.

Preparatory training :—

The Candidate must have passed all standards in an elementary school, and be capable of further study.

Sufficient education to be able to teach art and science, or at least sufficient capability of instructing children in elementary schools is highly desirable.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation are required. Also a reference from at least two reliable persons—the parish priest or spiritual director by preference.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate lasts two years, which may be extended by three months. The term is the same for Choir or Lay Sisters.

The habit is black for both Choir and Lay Sisters. The former (Choir Sisters) wear a mantle of black over their habit ; Lay Sisters wear a black shawl instead. The guimpe of a Choir Sister is of white woollen material and is pleated. The

guimpe of a Lay Sister is of plain white linen. The Sisters wear two veils ; a very long black gauze veil is worn over a shorter one of a thicker material but the same colour.

Future Employment :—

Employment is given according to capability and requirements.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Sacra Famiglia di Nazareth, Via Machiavelli, Rome.

The American Noviciate House is at Chicago, Illinois.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation of the Holy Family of Nazareth has thirty-four houses in the United States, America ; one in London, England ; five in Galicia, Austria ; four in Russian Poland ; two in Italy.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

Mother Superior, 18 Via Machiavelli, Rome, or The Convent, London Road, Enfield, England.

Dames du Saint Coeur de Marie
(Augustinians)

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The first and principal object of the Congregation is—besides self sanctification—the care of sick ladies both rich and poor. The Sisters also take care of orphans, whom they admit free of all charge.

Health and respective qualifications :—

a. Physical—good health.

b. Intellectual—good judgment, also ability to exercise some useful office in the Community.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Choir Sisters should, by Rule, bring a suitable outfit and a dowry. They should also be able to pay for their board during the term of Noviciate. Exceptions, however, may be made in the case of a well recommended candidate unable to pay. No dowry is required from Lay Sisters.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants seeking admission must be at least sixteen years of age.

Certificates and References required :—

Besides Certificates of Baptism and Confirm-

ation, applicants are required to produce a testimony that bears on their vocation and character.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates, choir and lay, remain Postulants for six months at least. After this the clothing takes place, and at the end of a year or so the Novice makes her first Profession. A two years' Noviciate follows. The vows are annual for five years, after that perpetual vows are pronounced.

The Sisters' habit is black; the wimple is white.

The Congregation (French) was founded in the year 1827 by Mother St. Angèle (*née* Victoire Letellier), for a time Superioress of the Hospital of God of Saumur. The foundation was made in Paris by a home for sick and infirm ladies. The Congregation was approved by Pope Leo XIII.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has houses at Brussels, in Belgium, and one in England,—St. Leonard's-on-Sea.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Dames Augustine's, St. Leonard's-on-Sea.

Dames Bernardines *

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The members of the Congregation devote their lives to the education of young ladies of the upper class, but they add to this work, when possible or necessary, elementary education of poor children, parochial meetings of the Children of Mary, mothers' meetings, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is an indispensable condition for admission to the Community. A tendency to consumption and certain dispositions to other grave infirmities are absolute impediments to reception.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to the outfit and the pension payable to the day of profession, the Nuns pay, when pronouncing the vows, a dowry of £80.

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* The Congregation of Dames Bernardines of Esquermes, was established at Lille-Esquermes (Nord) in 1799, but owing to the recent religious persecution in France, since 1904, at Ollignies, Belgium. By origin, these nuns belong to the great Cistercian Order. They were separated from it by the French Revolution ; in their present Congregation, they retain much of their ancient spirit together with their ancient costume. The nuns take the three vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

The Sisters' habit is white ; the scapular, long sash-like cincture and veil are black. The guimpe is of white linen, and in choir they wear a long white cowl.

The Lay Sisters in addition to their outfit, give a dowry of £8. But the Congregation is large in its views and profound in its religious spirit, and will not reject a good vocation through lack of pecuniary means, if otherwise well recommended and the resources of the Community will permit.

Age of Candidates :—

A dispensation by the Holy See is necessary for accepting a subject under fifteen or over thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

The Novices are trained according to their capabilities in the Noviciate in higher studies, needlework, music, painting, etc., in order to fit them for their future life in a large and well-organized Community.

Certificates and References required :—

An aspirant must furnish suitable references regarding herself and her family : Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation are also necessary.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Choir Novices occupy a separate part of the house for their work and studies. The Lay Sisters take a share in all the manual work of the house. Both, however, receive the same religious formation,

the same daily instructions and the same maternal solicitude from the Novice Mistress. There exists in the Community a deep spirit of charity.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Postulants receive the white veil, and the Choir Novices in addition the white habit, at the end of six months. They then commence the canonical year of their religious formation ; after which they add another six months of probation, in all eighteen months ; this with the six months' postulancy gives two years between the admission and profession. The vows are then taken for two years, renewed again for two, and then at the end of these four years the vows are made in perpetuity.

Future Employment :—

It is necessary that the Nuns should hold themselves ready to work under obedience at the offices given them by their Superior. They should hold themselves ready to work in any house and in any country to which they may be sent. The offices can be varied ; but the Superiors give every consideration to the capabilities of their subjects.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Madame la Prieure des Religieuses Bernardines, *Ollignies* (Hainaut), Belgium.

Other Establishments :—

In England: Slough, High Wycombe, Westcliff-on-Sea.

In America: Nebraska City (U.S.A.).

For Application or further information, apply to :—

England: The Lady Superior, St. Bernard's Convent, Westcliff-on-Sea (Essex).

Other countries as above.

Dames de la Mère de Dieu *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation of the Dames de la Mère de Dieu has for its object the education of youth, the care of Orphanages and Hospitals, the visitation of the rich and poor in their own homes, the instruction of the ignorant, and other such-like acts of external charity.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Candidates should be able to pay a pension the amount of which is fixed by arrangement between the Candidate and her parents and the Mother General.

Age of Candidates :—

The best age to apply for admittance is from eighteen up to thirty.

The Society was founded by Madame de Lezeau, a Religious of the Visitation Convent at Rouen, France. The disastrous French Revolution forced her to return home ; and whilst still a Religious in spirit she took active part in and rescued from disruption the Orphanages which had existed from 1648, and, as authorized by Louis XIV in 1678, took care of children from four to fourteen years of age. Up to that time they had been under the gratuitous management of pious ladies of the parish of Saint Sulpice, Paris. In 1806 she was elected Superioress of the newly formed Congregation of "Dames de la Mère de Dieu," —the Orphanage was known as Maison de la Mère de Dieu.

It was not until 1811 that the community adopted the Rules of St. Augustine, with the Constitutions of the Visitation Order as given by Saint Francis of Sales.

Preparatory training :—

A preparatory training is not necessary. Candidates will be trained according to their ability and to the requirements of the Society.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation.

b. Good References from a priest or the spiritual director.

The Mother House of the Congregation has been for many years in Rue de Picpus, Paris. They have also establishments at Dijon and Lille; in Italy at Porto Maurizio; in Africa at Cairo and Alexandria.

In England the Congregation has a Convent at Berrylands, Surbiton Hill, and a day school at Molesey.

Dames de la Nativité*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The chief object of the members of this Congregation is, (1) their own personal sanctification ; (2) the care and education of children.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be good enough to support the community life. For Choir Sisters a good education or ability for becoming teachers is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

For Choir Sisters a dowry is demanded. The material conditions for Lay Sisters are merely nominal.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen years upwards.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

References of good conduct from reliable

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* The Congregation, which is French, was founded in 1813 at Crest, by Abbé Enfantin, assisted by Madame de Fransu, who became the first Superior of the Congregation, and later on the General of several houses. The Congregation was founded with the object of repairing as far as possible by education and instruction the sad effects of the French Revolution. Pope Leo XIII approved the Congregation in 1888.

authority; also a reference bearing upon the respectability of the Candidate's parents.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

The Noviciate extends over two years, not including the probation time. The Sisters pronounce annual vows for five years. At the end of that time perpetual vows are taken.

The habit of the Choir Sisters is a dress and round cape of black merino with a veil of thinner material. A white muslin cap with a gauffered frill is worn under the veil.

The habit of the Lay Sisters is also black, but instead of a cape they wear a black shawl, and the black veil is replaced by a black cap worn over the white muslin one.

Establishments :—

Previous to the French persecution in 1903, which was followed by the confiscation of the religious Houses, the Congregation had a number of establishments in France with their Mother House at Valence (Drôme).

In England they have two Houses: Sittingbourne, Kent, and Eastbourne.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior of above.

Dames de Nazareth *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The principal and interior object is: the imitation of the hidden life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph at Nazareth.

The exterior work: the education and instruction of young ladies—Poor Schools where it is possible.

Health and respective qualifications :—

No hereditary disease and no illness or impediment which would render the Choir Nuns unfit for the work of education, or prevent the Lay Sisters from doing the work allotted to them, and render either of them incapable of following the Rule.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry and a trousseau are required for both Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters. The Lay Sisters' dowry is very small.

A very good supernatural vocation, with qualities offering a serious compensation,

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* The Congregation was founded in the beginning of the nineteenth century chiefly through the medium of Père Roger, and the Constitutions were approved by Pope Leo XIII in 1896.
The habit of the Choir Nuns is black with a black cape and a long black veil. Under the veil they wear a white cap with a quilled border. In the choir a long black mantle is worn over the habit.
The habit of the Lay Sisters is brown and of woollen material. They also wear a large black apron and a black shawl instead of a cape. Both their veil and cloak are shorter than those of the Choir Nuns. Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters wear dark blue aprons indoors.

might obtain a dispensation from Rome when the dowry cannot possibly be provided.

Age of Candidates :—

No postulant may apply under sixteen years of age, and a dispensation from Rome must be obtained after twenty-five.

Preparatory training required :—

For Choir Nuns, a good sound education with dispositions for further studies and aptitude for teaching.

For Lay Sisters, ordinary education with the habit of work, and a thorough good-will for all household duties.

Certificates and references required :—

Baptismal and Confirmation Certificates.

A letter from directors or persons who know the Candidates well and can answer for them.

Time of Noviciate :—

The term is : six months' postulancy and two years' Noviciate, for Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing (with white veil) is the beginning of the Noviciate. At the end of this first Probation, the Novice, if she is

admitted, receives the black veil and takes her first vows which she renews yearly during five years. After this second Probation she makes her third Probation, which lasts six or nine months, followed by her perpetual vows and the reception of the cross and (for Choir Nuns) the ring.

Future Employment :—

For the Choir Nuns, besides teaching in the young ladies' schools or the Poor Schools, they may have the direction of the different offices within the Convent.

The Lay Sisters are expected to do the usual housework.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

During the exile from France, the Mother House with the principal Noviciate is at Enghien, Hainaut, Belgium, 63 Rue d'Hoves.

Other Establishments :—

All the French houses of the Congregation have been closed. The other establishments are at Rome, Ospedaletti (Italy), Boarding Schools and Poor Schools. Colchester (England), Boarding Schools and Day School. Beaupré, Grinningen (Belgium), Poor School. Beyrouth (Syria), Boarding School, Poor Schools. In Galilee : Caïffa, Boarding School, Poor

School. Nazareth, Orphanages, Poor School, Chefa-Amar, Poor School, Dispensary. St. Jean d'Acre, Poor Schools, Dispensary.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General at Enghien, Belgium, or to Reverend Mother, Grey Friars, Colchester Essex.

Dames de St. André *

(Religious of St. Andrew)

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Object of the Society :—

The Society of the "Dames of St. Andrew" unites the contemplative with the active life. The object is the perfection and salvation of its own members and the perfection and salvation of their neighbours chiefly by education.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is required, also respectability of family and of previous life.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A certain sum is required for Admission, as Choir Nun or Sister, but this question can always be discussed with the Mother General, who considers that a solid vocation is the most important item.

Age of Candidates :—

Not younger than eighteen or over thirty, without a special dispensation being required.

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* The origin of the Society dates back to the thirteenth century, the Holy See, by a Bull of Pope Innocent IV, took it under its protection in 1249. At the French Revolution the nuns were expelled from their Convent, but bought it back later, and in 1857 received the approbation of the Holy See. The Religious follow the Rule of St. Ignatius and are essentially a Teaching Order.

Preparatory training :—

A good education and a certain amount of instruction is required. It is desirable that Candidates should hold Certificates for Secondary or Elementary Education.

Certificates and References required :—

Birth or Baptismal Certificates. References are asked of the parish priest and of the Heads of Institutes where the Candidate has been educated.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate lasts two years for the Choir Nuns. In the case of a Lay Sister the term may be longer.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

When Candidates enter the Society they are three months Postulants in the case of Choir Nuns and longer in the case of those who are to be Lay Sisters. At the end of this time they are clothed. After the usual time spent in the Noviciate they are admitted to "Profession."

Future Employment :—

In the case of Choir Nuns, teaching and other works of zeal. For the Lay Sisters, domestic work.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Institut des Dames de St. André, Tournai, Belgique.

Other Establishments :—

The Society has also a Training College for Nuns, and a Boarding and Day School in Bruges. A Boarding and Day School in Charleroi and in Brussels. A Convent in Antwerp. A Boarding and Day School in Streatham near London with an Elementary School under the L.C.C. Al Houses have also a School for poor children, except Antwerp. Tournai, Charlero and Antwerp have also separate accommodation for receiving persons wishing to make a private or general retreat.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

Mother General at Tournai, Belgium, or to Mother Superior, Coventry Hall, Streatham, London.

Daughters of the Cross *

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

To labour with the grace of God not only for the salvation and perfection of their own souls, but earnestly to apply themselves, by means of this same grace, to the salvation and perfection of their neighbours.

Health and respective qualifications :—

The Candidate must be of good health, without any notable exterior defect, and of a sound and judicious mind. She must be of a respectable family and have a good education; an exception to the last condition may be made for a Lay Sister.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

If possible she must bring a dowry, nevertheless Postulants though poor may be admitted provided they have all the necessary qualifications.

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* The Congregation of the Daughters of the Cross was founded at Liège, Belgium, in the year 1833. It claims as founder Canon Habets and Jeanne Haze, in Religion Marie Thérèse, who became the first Superior General of the Congregation. The Constitutions drawn up by Father Habets were approved by the Holy See in 1851. The Rule and Constitutions based on those of St. Ignatius are specially drawn up, adapted to the Congregations' enterprises, which know no limit. At her death in 1876 the pious foundress, declared Venerable in 1912, had the consolation to have given the religious habit to no less than 900 members o the community.

Age of Candidates :—

The Congregation admits Candidates from sixteen up to thirty years of age.

Certificates and References required :—

Baptismal Certificate, Doctor's Certificate of health. References given by a priest.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate, not including probation time, extends over two years.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing takes place after a postulancy of from three to six months for Choir Sisters. The term is twelve months for Lay Sisters. The Novices pronounce temporary (annual) vows at the end of the first year's Noviciate, and the white veil is replaced by a black one. Lay Sisters always wear white veils. Perpetual vows are not taken until after some years.

The Sisters' habit is of black merino ; a veil lined with white, and a white wimple with binder completes the costume.

Future Employment :—

The members are employed according to their capacity and the Congregation requirements.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Mother House Liège Belgium,

Provincial House and Noviciate for England; Carshalton House, Carshalton, Surrey.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has a large number of Schools, higher and middle class, Orphanages, Hospitals, Homes, Workrooms, Training Colleges for teachers, etc., in the various parts of the world. For addresses see Catholic Directories.

Before many years after its foundation, this admirable Congregation had spread over Belgium and Rhenish Prussia. It has now fourteen houses in Germany and several in Belgium. The Sisters came to England in 1863 and first settled at Cheltenham. After ten years they removed to Chelsea, Cale Street, where they are at the present time. Moreover in England they have establishments at Bury, Manchester, Margate, Brook Green, Totteridge, N. Hadham, etc.

The Congregation was introduced into British India in the year 1862, and opened a house in Calcutta in 1868.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Provincial Superior, Carshalton House, Surrey.

Belgium : Provincial House and Noviciate, Liège.

Others : see Catholic Directories respectively.

The Daughters of Jesus *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation of the Daughters of Jesus has for its object the instruction of poor children and the education of young ladies; the care of the sick either in their own homes or in Hospitals, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates must have good health so as to be able to bear the laborious daily life of the community. They must have a good reputation, be free from any worldly tie, and be well recommended for their "religious" dispositions.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry is proportionate to the position of the Candidate. Arrangements for payment are made with the Rev. Mother General. It never exceeds £120 payable before profession. Poverty, however, is never a cause of exclusion. The expenses for Choir Nuns are usually £28; for Sisters £12. This fee is payable during the time of the Noviciate.

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* The Congregation of the Daughters of Jesus was founded at the beginning of the last century at Bignon in Brittany (France) by the Venerable Mother Angéle (*née* Samson). Previous to the French persecution in 1903 the Sisters were engaged in a large number of schools, especially in the Dioceses of Vannes and Guimper.

On entering, the aspirant pays £7 5s. for her trousseau, which she will receive at her clothing.

Age of Candidates :—

The Congregation admits postulants from sixteen to thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

Candidates must have received a good, sound education and be willing to study further.

A knowledge of French is not required for admission, but the Candidate must be prepared to study it.

Certificates and References required :—

Baptismal and Confirmation Certificates.

A letter of recommendation from the parish priest or any other priest, but not from the confessor.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate extends over two years; applicants are one year as postulants and one as novices.

The Daughters of Jesus unite the contemplative with the active life. Their day of prayer and work commences at five in the morning and ends at nine o'clock at night, the spiritual or contemplative part o which comprises :—Half an hour for meditation ; assistance at Holy Mass ; the recitatiòn of the Office of Our Lady ; the

recitation of the Rosary ; a visit of a quarter of an hour to the Blessed Sacrament, and half an hour spiritual reading.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

After a year's probation Candidates take the veil and are novices for one more year, at the end of which time they pronounce temporary (annual) vows followed by profession.

The Sisters' habit is black. The wimple is white over which they wear a black veil.

Future Employment :—

The Choir Nuns are employed either in teaching, nursing the sick, or in other works of mercy.

The Sisters are employed in manual work and in the care of the house.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Kermaria, Locminé, Morbihan, France.

The Congregation has a Provincial House with a second Noviciate at Three Rivers, Canada.

Other Establishments :—

In addition to those in France, the Congregation has also houses in Belgium, England, Natal, Canada, and the United States. See Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, The Convent, Colne, Lancs.

Daughters of the Faithful Virgin

(Congregation of Our Lady of the Orphans)

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The chief object of the Congregation of the Daughters of the Faithful Virgin is the care of poor female orphans and other destitute children, for whom it provides orphanages and homes and into which they can be readmitted and may remain there, should infirmity have rendered them incapable of supporting themselves.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicant's health must be good enough to become a useful member of the community.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Candidates seeking admission into the Congregation should, in addition to a good outfit, be able to pay a small premium for some time at least.

Age of Candidates :—

The proper age to apply for admission is from eighteen to thirty.

Preparatory training :—

A good education is required and subjects are trained and prepared to fit them for the works carried on by the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and also good references are required.

This Congregation has its own Constitutions which have been approved by the Holy See. Their Rule is that of St. Ignatius somewhat modified to meet the special nature and end of the Society.

The Congregation was founded in the year 1830 at La Délivrande in Normandy (France) by Henriette le Forestier d'Osseville. They first came to England in 1848 and made a foundation at Norwood, Surrey, where they have at present a large boarding-school and an orphanage.

The Congregation has also Establishments in the West Indies.

Postal Address of Mother House :—

La Délivrande, Normandy, France.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

England : Convent of the Faithful Virgin, Central Hill, Norwood, London, S.E.

Daughters of the Holy Ghost*

(Also known as "White Sisters")

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The Daughters of the Holy Ghost combine the contemplative with the active life. Whilst aiming at self-sanctification by the observance of the Religious life, the Sisters occupy themselves in extern works of charity such as tending to the sick and poor, instructing the ignorant, taking care of schools, Hospitals, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission into the Congregation must enjoy sufficiently good health to support the community life and

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* The Congregation was founded in the year 1706 at Blérin (France) by Mesdames Marie Balaven and Renée Burel assisted by Renée-Jean Allenou. Owing to their white habit the Daughters of the Holy Ghost are also known by the name of "White Sisters." It was not until the year 1733 that a first principal establishment was opened, but at the dawn of the ill-fated French Revolution in 1790 the Congregation counted some eighteen Houses with schools and various charitable Institutions attached to them. From the year 1800, when Religious peace had once more been established in France, the Congregation spread with such remarkable success that within fifty years their Houses had been increased already to the number of one hundred and thirty, and continued to be blessed with success by their charitable and unselfish devotedness towards the poor, the ignorant, and the abandoned, until the comparatively recent French Religious persecution and confiscation, by which barbarism many were driven into exile. The Rule and Constitutions were revised and adapted to modern requirements by Mgr. Mee, Bishop of St. Brieuc, in the year 1837.

to become useful members. They must also be of sound judgment and well recommended for their personal character and Religious vocation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a good outfit, a dowry is required, which, however, in some very special cases may be dispensed with.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants may find admission from seventeen years upwards.

Preparatory training :—

Candidates are expected to have had a good and solid education. They must also have sufficient talent to be trained to fit them for the various works of the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

Postulants are to furnish Certificates of Birth, Baptism, and Confirmation, reliable references attesting to their irreproachable character, and to the respectability of their parents.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

After a probation of some months the Noviciate is entered upon and it extends over two years. This is followed by the taking of simple temporary vows.

Establishments :—

The Congregation of Daughters of the Holy Ghost, which is so largely diffused over France, has in these Islands Houses at Abergavenny ; Monmouth ; Pontypool.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, St. Alban's Convent, Pontypool.

Daughters of the Immaculate Conception *

(Commonly called Apostolines)

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Object of the Congregation :—

The "Apostolines" have for their object chiefly the education of youth and the care of Orphanages. They also visit and have the care of the aged poor and sick.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health, freedom from striking deformity, and good character, are indispensable.

Pecuniary means required :—

The dowry varies according to circumstances. It is for the Mother General to decide in particular cases. There are no Lay Sisters in the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

The usual Certificates—Baptism and Confirmation; also good References bearing upon the Candidate's character and vocation, must be submitted.

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* The "Apostolines" were founded by Agnes Baliques, at Antwerp in the year 1680. They have several houses in the Netherlands; the Mother House is said to be at Berchem. In Scotland, at Aberdeen they have had for many years the care of an Orphanage for boys and girls. The Convent was independent of the Mother House.

The late foundation made under the same title with similar objects at Retford, Nottingham, by Bishop Bagshawe, seems to have been in imitation only.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a term of at least six months' postulancy the Noviciate is entered, which extends over two years. The Candidate receives the full habit, with the exception of the Rosary and girdle, at her clothing. At the end of the Noviciate annual vows are taken ; after three years, perpetual vows and profession are made, when a silver ring is received as a token.

The habit of the Congregation is black, with violet undersleeves and girdle. A linen unstiffened *guimpe* is worn over head and shoulders and is covered by a long black veil. A black cloak completes the professed Sister's dress.

The dress of a postulant consists of a black gown, black cape and cap. Out of doors they wear over this a black cloak with a hood.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother General.

Daughters of Providence*

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Object of the Order :—

The object of the Society is to contribute to the sanctification of souls by giving children a Christian education. The Nuns visit the sick and accept the management of hospitals, but the chief object of their Institute is the education of youth.

Health and respective qualifications :—

The Nuns devoting their time to teaching, nursing, and visiting the sick, should have good health.

No Candidate is admitted suffering from some mental or other grave affliction.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Choir Nuns pay a pension, *according to their means*, during the two first years of their Noviciate. The dowry is also *according to the means*, which may be paid by annual instalments. No dowry is asked of a poor Candidate who has the qualities and abilities required by the Society.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are accepted between the ages of

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* Congregation of the Daughters of Providence, founded by the Servant of God, l'Abbé Jean-Marie de Lamennais, Founder also of the Christian Brothers' Institute. See *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I.

sixteen and twenty-five. After twenty-five, special permission from the Bishop or the Ecclesiastical Superior is required.

Preparatory training :—

Choir Nuns have to study in order to be able to teach in secondary and elementary schools and to work in hospitals. They may pursue some study during their Noviciate.

Lay Sisters are taught needlework, cookery, etc., and all kinds of manual work.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates have to submit Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation ; references from their parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate :—

The term of Noviciate both for Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters extends over two years at least.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates who have proved themselves satisfactory for about six months take the veil. They may pronounce their first vows twelve months after. But they remain one year at the Noviciate after their Profession.

Future Employment :—

Choir Nuns are as a rule employed either in

teaching or in hospital work. Lay Sisters perform manual work.

Nuns are not sent to the Canadian Missions unless they express their wish to go.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

The Mother House and Noviciate are at : Couvent de la Providence, Rue des Casernes, *Saint Brieuc*, Côtes-du-Nord, France.

Another Noviciate at : Vegreville, Alberta, Canada.

Other Establishments :—

France : Saint Brieuc (Boarding and Day School, Dispensary and Clinical Surgery), Moncontour, Ploubazlanec, Matignon, St. Lunaire, St. Jouan, Rennes, Saint Malo, Chateaulin, Combourg (Schools and Hospital), Cesson (Convalescent Home).

Canada : Prince Albert, St. Louis de Langevin, Bonne Madone, Howell, Domrémy, Vegreville.

England : Wood Green, London, N., and Chipping-Norton (Oxon).

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Providence Convent High School, Stuart Crescent, Wood Green, London, N

Other addresses : as above.

Dominican Nuns *

(Second Order)

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Object of the Order:—

Although numbers devote themselves, in some countries, to the teaching of children of the upper class and to other works of primary and secondary education, this Order, essentially, is strictly contemplative, its objects being—prayer, meditation, recitation of the Divine Office and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Strict enclosure is the note of the Order, and the Nuns can only be seen by Visitors through a double *grille*. The members of the Community observe perpetual abstinence and special fasts of the Order in addition to those of the Church. The time

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* Having founded the Order of Dominican Friars in the year 1216, the Saint himself is believed to have subsequently obtained the approval of Pope Honorius III for the Order of Dominican Nuns. Hence called Second Order. The Third Order is that of the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Sienna and of St. Rose of Lima. (See "Dominican Sisters," also *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I.)

The Convent of the above English Community of the Second Order was founded at Vilvorde, near Brussels, Belgium, by Father Philip Th. Howard, a Dominican Friar, afterwards Cardinal Howard, towards the end of the seventeenth century. This Community removed to Brussels in 1690. In 1794 they came to London and made a foundation at Hartpury Court, Gloucester. Forty-five years later they removed into a new building called "The Rosary," at Atherstone, Warwickshire, which they left again in 1858 for Hurst Green, near Whalley, Lancashire. In 1866 the Countess of Clare presented them with the spacious Convent, their present residence, at Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight.

not given to prayer is spent in performing manual labour of various kinds.

Health and respective qualifications :—

As the Rule of the Dominicanesses is that of St. Augustine, well known for its austerity, Candidates seeking admission into the Second Order must enjoy very good health, and be free from any hereditary disease. They must also be drawn to the contemplative life by supernatural motives, willing to practise humility, abnegation and penance.

Pecuniary means required :—

A dowry is required for admission, more or less extensive according to the Candidate's circumstances and qualifications.

Preparatory training :—

Candidates for Choir Nuns must have received a good sound education and be willing to apply themselves to further study if required. For Lay Sisters nothing special.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of health, Birth, Baptism and Confirmation are required. Good references bearing upon the Candidate and her family must also be given.

The habit of the Dominicanesses is white, over which Choir Nuns wear a white, Lay Sisters a black, scapular. The Choir Nun's

veil is black, that of the Lay Sister white. The wimple is white linen and a black cloak called *cappa* is worn by all the Sisters when in church. The Nuns rise regularly at midnight for the chanting of the Divine Office.

Establishments :—

The Dominicanesses of the Second Order have only one Convent in England, that of Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight.

In America, North and South, there are a large number of Dominican Convents.

In Ireland they have seven establishments. See respective Catholic Directories.

Holland : Marienthal, near Venlo.

Luxemburg : Limpertsberg.

Germany ; Regensburg ; Niederviehbach ; Colmar, etc.

Austria : Maria Steinach, near Algund ; Linz ; Bludenz, etc,

Switzerland : Luzern, Cazis ; Weesen ; Wyl, etc.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Prioress, Dominican Convent, Carisbrooke, I. of W.

Dominican Sisters*

(Third Order)

(Congregation of St. Catherine of Sienna)

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Object of the Society :—

The members unite the active to the contemplative life by adding to their spiritual functions such as education of youth, visiting the poor, the care of Hospitals or any other extern works of charity.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health sufficiently good to observe the Rule of the Community is requisite. Applicants must also have a fixed determination to devote their lives and talents to the service of God in the Society.

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* The Dominican Sisters, unlike the Dominican Nuns, Second Order, take simple vows. They are neither bound to enclosure nor perpetual abstinence, and do not rise at midnight for Matins. Following the old Rule of Tertiaries in nearly all their establishments the Little Office of Our Lady is recited.

The Third Order, also called Tertiaries, was originally founded by St. Francis of Assisi for lay people of both sexes, whether married or single, who, while living in the world, wishing to lead pious lives, promise to observe certain rules not binding under sin, and which are compatible with their station in life. Lay associations of this kind are attached to the Franciscan, Augustinian, Dominican and Carmelite Orders. (See *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I. Third Order). Several religious Congregations, such as the above, have been formed, in the course of time out of these Tertiaries, of both sexes. Their life is both active and contemplative, and the members occupy themselves in various works of charity.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

According to circumstances, Candidates are expected to bring a dowry sufficient to cover at least the expenses of Probation Training and Noviciate.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants can be admitted from eighteen years upwards to about thirty.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificate of Baptism.

b. Certificate of Confirmation.

c. A character from a priest or any qualified person.

A certificate of health may also be called for.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Postulancy is a fairly long one in many of the Dominican Sisters' Establishments. In some cases it lasts altogether two years. At the end of a canonical year the so-called "simple novice" pronounces vows for three years and becomes a "professed novice" until final Profession.

Future Employment :—

The employment varies according to ability, age and requirements.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

St. Dominic's Convent, Stone, Staffs.

Other Establishments :—

England : Stoke-on-Trent. Bow, London, E. St. Mary Church, South Devon. Hadwick, N.B.

A Training College conducted by Dominican Sisters of the Third Order at Zofingen in Konstanz.

Another Congregation called Sisters of the Holy Rosary has Convents at Beccles, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Kilburn and Watford. Again there are other offshoots of Dominicanesses (Tertiaries), several of whom have their own peculiar Constitutions somewhat modified from the above, and a Rule specially drawn up for their own sphere of work. America counts a large number of Dominican Convents with several Mother Houses and Noviciates. For Addresses for Ireland and America : see Catholic Directories.

Dominican Sisters*

(Third Order)

(Congregation of St. Rose of Lima)

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Object of the Congregation :—

a. Prayer and Contemplation. The solemn recitation of the Divine Office, meditation, etc.

b. Active works of Charity. Teaching in Elementary and Secondary Schools. The care of the sick, of crippled girls and of orphans in Hospitals and Homes attached to the Convent. Visiting the sick and poor. Instructing the ignorant, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants must be physically and mentally sound and in good health, of good and virtuous character, and give satisfactory reasons for desiring the religious life.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A Choir Sister is expected to bring a suitable outfit and sufficient money to pay for Clothing expenses. She should also have at least a small dowry or something

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* The Congregation is also known as Sisters of Penance of the Third Order of St. Dominic. The Constitutions of the Congregation have been approved and confirmed by the Holy See. See also Dominican Sisters, p. 99.

equivalent, such as Certificates for Teaching in Elementary and Secondary Schools, or for Nursing.

A Lay Sister is required to bring an outfit and, if she can afford it, to pay something towards the Clothing expenses.

Age of Candidates :—

There is no strict limit as to age, but from twenty to thirty is the best time to apply for admission.

Preparatory training :—

Choir Candidates must have received a fairly good education. If they can show they have studied and specialized in any way, it may be considered as a qualification which would help to dispense with a dowry.

Certificates and References required :—

The Certificates required are : Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Health. Satisfactory references, particularly if they are strangers, and Testimonials if they have been employed in Teaching or Nursing.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

For Choir Nuns.—Three months' postulantship and one year's Simple Noviciate. After first profession, three years as a professed Nurse, followed by final profession. As a rule Choir Sisters remain

one year in the Noviciate after this. In all: five years and three months.

For Lay Sisters.—Three to six months' postulantship. Three years' wearing the habit as Tertiaries of the Order. One year's Noviciate followed by first profession for three years, at the end of which time Lay Sisters make their final profession. In all: seven years and about six months.

Future Employment:—

As far as possible a Sister's employment will be suited to her capabilities, special regard being paid to her qualifications for teaching, nursing, etc. Lay Sisters are enployed almost exclusively in domestic work and in waiting on the sick.

Postal Address of English Noviciate:—

St. Rose's Convent, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

Other Convents belonging to the Congregation are:

St. Catherine's Convent, Shieldfeld Green, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

St. Agnes' Convent, Erdington, Birmingham.

St. Joseph's Convent, Cheadle, N. Staffs.

The Congregation has just established (1912) a special school for physically defective and crippled girls, certified by the Board of Education, in whom disease is quiescent, for the purpose of training them to earn a

livelihood. The children are under the care of a trained Nurse and a trained Certificated Teacher.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

The Mother General, St. Rose's Convent, Stroud.

Elizabethines.*

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Object of the Order :—

The Order of the Elizabethines is strictly contemplative—prayer, penance, fast and abstinence, recitation of the Divine Office, etc. (The Nuns rise at midnight for the chanting of Matins.)

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health, also a sound constitution, the life being austere.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is required which varies according to circumstances. In each case the amount is fixed by the Mother Abbess.

The habit of the Order is grey as worn by St. Elizabeth.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

References from the parish priest, spiritual directors, or any other reliable authority.

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* The branch, called "Grey Sisters of St. Elizabeth," founded at Neisse in Silesia in 1842, combines the contemplative with the active life. It has spread over Germany, Austria, Italy, Norway and Sweden, and has the care and direction of charitable Institutions of almost every description.

The Congregation admits candidates between the ages of eighteen and thirty. The Postulancy lasts six months and the Noviciate two years. A dowry, including pension, etc., of about £50 is demanded by Rule, but exceptions are made. The Mother House is in Breslau, IX. Josephs strasse 3.

There are no Convents of Elizabethines in England, but on the continent, in Austria, Bavaria, Belgium and Italy, the Order has over thirty Establishments.

For Addresses see Catholic Directories respectively.

N.B.—The Order is named neither after its immediate foundress, who was Angelina of Corboro, nor after the place of its origin, being founded at Foligno, Italy, in the year 1393, but it is named after its Patron, St. Elizabeth of Hungary. The latter also might more or less be considered the foundress of the Elizabethines inasmuch as she founded a Hospital at Marburg, Germany, in the thirteenth century, whilst she, along with her associates, observed not only the "Tertiaries' Rule" of St. Francis of Assisi,* but also pronounced the religious vows: "Grisaeum habitum induit, et habitus susceptionem voti emissione solemnavit" (Saint Antony; Vincent de Beauvais).

The "Order" having been reformed by the saintly *Angelina* in imitation of St. Elizabeth, received approvals from Pope Martin V and Pope Eugene IV.

Branches of this Order are the Franciscaines Hospitalières and Sœurs Grises (French). St. Vincent de Paul founded on the model of these his Sisters of Charity.

* See Third Order, *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I.

Faithful Companions of Jesus*

❋ ❋ ❋

Object of the Society :—

The Society combines the contemplative with the active life. Its objects are, after the personal sanctification of its own members, the education and instruction of Elementary Middle and Upper Classes. They have training Colleges for mistresses, young ladies boarding schools, etc., and some of their convents have charge of two or more parochial schools.

Health and respective qualifications :—

General good health, a solid vocation, and the renunciation of self-will is required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is not essential. In most cases it is for the Mother General to decide, who will take both ability and circumstances into consideration.

The terms for Lay Sisters are easier.

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* The Society is of French origin. It was founded by Madame de Bonnault d'Houet, *née* de Bengy, in the year 1820 at Amiens. Pope Leo XII approved the Congregation in 1826, which approval was confirmed by Pope Gregory XVI in 1837. They came first to England in 1830 under the direction of Madame d'Houet, the then Mother General of the Society, and received in the course of time charge of an extensive parochial school at Somerstown, London. The Community opened a first-class boarding school at Isleworth (London) in 1841 and another one in 1844 at Laurel Hill, Limerick, Ireland. The Training College at Sedgley Park, Prestwich, Manchester, was opened in 1906.

Age of Candidates :—

There is no age for admission fixed by Rule, but young Candidates are preferred.

Preparatory training :—

Mothers (Choir Sisters) should be able to teach or should at least have sufficient talent to be trained for such. For Sisters (Lay Sisters) nothing special is required.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation. For reference—the addresses of a few ecclesiastics or recommendations from Institutes of training.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The time of postulancy extends generally over six months, in some cases more. The Noviciate lasts two years, at the end of which temporary vows are taken followed by profession.

The habit, wimple and veil of both Mothers and Sisters is black. Novices wear a black cape and cap instead of a veil.

Establishments :—

The Society has a number of Convents, Colleges, etc., in the United Kingdom, but many more on the continent.

In England Gumley House, Isleworth, London ; Clarendon Square, Somerstown,

N.W.; Adelphi House, Salford; Sedgley Park Training College, Manchester; Lark Hill, Preston; Great George's Square, Liverpool; Upton Hall, Birkenhead; Dee House, Chester, etc.

In Ireland: Laurel Hill, Limerick; Newtownbarry, co. Wexford.

Since September last (1911) the Society has taken over the houses of the Dames of St. Andrew in Jersey. There are also Convents in Canada and Australia, and one in America: Fitchburg, Mass., belonging to the Faithful Companions of Jesus.

Filles de Marie *

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The Filles de Marie, Daughters of Mary,

* This first Congregation of "Daughters of Mary" was formed in the year 1861 at Agen (France) out of the Association of Prayer for the young, founded by the Venerable Adèle de Trenquelléon. The Reform was advocated by Mgr. Cohaminade, founder also of the "Marists or Clercs de Marie," who considered that enclosure along with the undertaking of upper class education of girls should form the essential object of the Congregation. After the death of the foundress, her ardent desire in life—that the Sisters should not be bound to enclosure and should devote themselves to the instruction of the youth of parishes and attend to the sick poor in their own homes—was realized by the formation of a branch Congregation at Auch in the year 1836, under the title of "Third Order of Daughters of Mary.

In Belgium at Pesches a Congregation with a similar title and object was founded in 1822 by the Abbés Baudy and Rousseau and Françoise Loisignol, who became the first Superioress. It was not until the year 1833 that the much tried institute adopted Constitutions and received the Religious habit. Two years later a first batch of Sisters made their profession. In the course of time the Congregation spread over various Dioceses in Belgium, especially those of Liège, Tournai and Namur. The vows are temporary for the first five years and then—should the young Sister have reached the age of twenty-five—perpetual vows may be pronounced. The Sisters' habit is entirely black with the exception of the coiffe, which is white. They wear a black cloak out of doors.

A Congregation with similar objects again and under the title of "Daughters of St. Mary" was founded at Torfou, Diocese of Angers (France) about the year 1823 by l'Abbé Charles Foyer, the parish priest. This Community has retained in its habit, rules and Constitutions much similarity to those of the Sisters of Christian Instruction of St. Gildas from which it originally sprang. (See Contents and Congregation respectively.)

Another Congregation of this title with parallel objects and constitutions was founded in 1826 at Broons, Diocese of St. Brieuc, by the parish priest, l'Abbé Fleury. In addition to attending to the sick poor, and to the instruction and education of youth in schools, this Community devotes itself especially to the care of deaf and dumb children.

have for their chief objects the perfection and salvation of their own members by the observance of the Religious life and also by the application of themselves without reserve to the perfection and salvation of their neighbours by the instruction and education of youth, or to any other work of charity which Providence may assign to them.

In Spain a Congregation under the same title and with similar objects and constitutions was founded in 1829 at Figney, Diocese of Gerona, with branch houses now in the Diocese of Barcelona, Vich, Solsona, etc. The Congregation was approved of by the Holy See in 1860.

In Italy a Congregation of that title also and with similar objects and constitutions was founded by Bishop Gianelli at Chiavari, Diocese of Genoa, in 1829. This Community has several establishments in South America, where the Sisters have the care and direction of parochial schools, orphanages, asylums, hospitals, etc.

At Louvain, Belgium, Sister Mary Teresa (*née* Cicercule Paridaens), and late Religious of the Convent of Daughters of Notre Dame de Mons, suppressed in 1797, founded, with the assistance of l'Abbé Jean Hubert de Venise, in 1834 a Congregation of a similar title, with objects and constitutions parallel to the aforesaid. The "Paridaens" had been Religious in spirit and in their observance, but without canonical Constitutions and the Religious habit, since 1805. The Community has two classes of Sisters, choir and auxiliary, their habit is black, and perpetual vows are made after some years of Religious life. The Congregation has its Mother House at Louvain with branch establishments at Antwerp, Kiel-lez-Anvers, etc. In the city of Louvain the Sisters direct upper class boarding schools for young ladies.

In Africa, a similar title was given to a Congregation founded about 1845 by Aimée and Marie-Anne Pignolet de Fresne. The Society admits Candidates without distinction of colour and race. It has now many establishments with hospices, schools, workrooms, etc., and counts far over one thousand Religious, many of whom have been rescued from the degrading position of slaves.

In Asia, Father Raymond Estève, of the Society of Jesus, founded at Bikfaïa a Congregation of the same title again, and the Community, which for the greater part is composed of Maronite subjects, has the direction of many schools and other charitable institutions in Beyrouth, Damascus, Ghazir, Aleppo, Aïn-Ebel, Safad, Mazraa, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants must have good and reliable health, be able to observe the Community life, and to become useful members. To be well recommended for their respectability and vocation is also essential.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Postulants must be provided with a good and suitable trousseau, details of which will be supplied when needed. The dowry demanded is in most cases according to circumstances. Intending Choir Sisters are expected to defray the training and Noviciate expenses, but exceptions may be made.

Age of Candidates :—

The best and preferable age to enter is from eighteen to about twenty-five, but younger or older Candidates who possess suitable qualities may find admission.

Preparatory training required :—

For Choir Sisters a good elementary education is always required; it is also desirable that they should have ability and possibly hold a certificate for teaching.

For Lay Sisters nothing special is demanded; they are chiefly employed in domestic duties.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism, Confirmation must be produced; also references from the clergy or any other duly authorized and reliable persons.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing takes place, as a rule, after a postulancy of three months, which may, however, be extended to twelve months. This is followed by a two years' Noviciate, at the end of which the vows are taken; first, temporary, and after about five years, perpetual.

The habit of the Daughters of Mary is of black serge with a white girdle. They wear a white mantle in choir.

The Constitutions are based on those of St. Benedict, and the Congregation received the approval of the Holy See in 1838.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has had its headquarters for many years at Bordeaux, whither the Noviciate was transferred from Agen, with branch houses at St. Claude and in Corsica. For further Addresses, see *Catholic Directory*.

Franciscan Missionaries of Mary*

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Object of the Institute :—

As the name tells, the Institute is a missionary one and aims at the spiritual and temporal welfare of the poor pagans in pagan countries. In Europe its apostolate is exercised among the poor. All the members of the Institute, moreover, are devoted to the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament exposed.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is required, considering the hardships of missionary life. Also love for souls, and a strong desire to work in the Foreign Missions.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry is 12,000 francs (£480) for Mothers (Choir Nuns), and 3000 francs (£120) for the Sisters (Lay).

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted from the age of fifteen up to thirty.

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* The Institute was founded at Dotacamunde in the Madras Presidency of India in 1877. A few Religious who had been trained to the Religious life in another Congregation founded the Institute with the object of the conversion of pagan women. Pope Pius IX ordered the new Institute to be put under the jurisdiction and protection of the Propaganda de Fide in 1877. The *Lauda* was received in 1885, and the final approbation was given by the Holy See in 1890. The Rule of the Institute is that of St. Francis as modified by Pope Leo X in 1521.

Preparatory training :—

Postulants are expected to have had a good and sound education. They will be trained to fit them for Missionary work.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. Recommendation of the director and certificate of health, are also demanded.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After at least three months of postulantship, the subject may be admitted to the reception of the habit. The first vows are pronounced after two years of Noviciate, for three years. Then the subject may be admitted to perpetual vows.

In this Congregation, like in some others, the Choir Sisters are called Mothers and the Lay Sisters go by the name of Sisters.

The habit of the "Mothers," including scapular and veil, is entirely white, to which is added a black veil and a long grey mantle, when out of doors.

The habit of a "Sister" is grey, and the Franciscan cord is worn by all Mothers and Sisters.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Mother House : 12 Via Guissi, Rome.

Noviciate (for England and Ireland):

St. Joseph des Châtelets, près S. Brieuc, Côte du Nord, France.

Other Establishments :—

Two in England: London, Clevedon; one in Ireland: Loughglynn, Co. Roscommon; four in France; six in Belgium and Holland; four in Austria; three in Switzerland; six in Italy; eight in North America; one in South America; three in Tunis; four in the Congo; three in Zululand; four in Portugal; two in Spain; two in Madagascar; ten in India; twelve in China; two in Mongolia; three in Birmania; four in Japan; one in Bethlehem; one in Turkey in Asia; one in Turkey in Europe.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superior, St. Margaret's Convent, Bethell Avenue, Canning Town, E.

Ireland and others: as above

Franciscan Nuns*

(Third Order Regular)

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Object of the Congregation:—

The members of the Congregation combine the active and contemplative life and

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* The Third Order of St. Francis was originally founded for lay people (see *Vocations*, Vol. I, "Third Order." Also "Dominican Tertiaries," *Vocations*, Vol. II). As far back as the fourteenth century "Brothers" and "Sisters" of the Third Order, seeking greater perfection, formed themselves into distinct Congregations, adopted the Community ife, and took the Religious vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. Hence the Franciscan Regulars. The foundress of the nuns was St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Duchess of Thuringia, who died in 1231. See "Elizabethines."

Education, Hospital duties, the visitation and care of the sick, the direction of orphanages, the training of girls and women, and such-like works of charity as the Bishop of the Diocese may approve of, enter largely into the occupation of the various Communities of the Franciscan nuns.

On the Continent there are a large number and various kinds of Franciscan Tertiaries with charitable Institutions of every description.

In Austria: Vienna, III Apostelgasse and V Hartmanngasse; Hallein; Judenau; Troppau; Böcklabruck; Algersdorf; Marburg a.d. Drau, etc.

In Bavaria: Mother Houses are at Augsburg (Maria Sternschwestern) with branches in the Dioceses of Augsburg, Bamberg, Munich, Würzburg, Eichstätt.

In Germany: Thuine bei Freren; Bonlanden (Illertal); Heiligenbronn Reute and Siessen (Württemberg); Gegenbach (Baden).

For Congregations of Aachen and Waldbreitbach see "Poor Sisters of St. Francis."

We have been able to ascertain that in 1912 there were in the U. S. of America over 5000 Sisters-Tertiaries, belonging to the various Communities of the Third Order of St. Francis, all devoting their lives, energies and talents to the glorification of God and the salvation of souls. (See *American Catholic Directory*.)

Out of at least seventeen Franciscan Convents which the United Kingdom may well be proud of, there are only two of which the nuns are enclosed, though without a *grille*. The Mother House of these is at Taunton.

occupy themselves in external works of charity (such as may be required). See footnote.

Pecuniary means required :—

The dowry varies according to circumstances, age and personal abilities. Candidates should always have a sufficient outfit and be able to defray at least in part the expenses of postulancy and Noviciate.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants must enjoy good health, and be free from serious defects or anything else liable to prevent them becoming useful members of the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation : reference addresses of at least two reliable persons or of an Institute as the case may be. A doctor's certificate of health may also be solicited.

Noviciate and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts two years as a rule, and is rarely extended beyond that time. Final profession is not made until after some years of temporary (annual) vows.

The habit is black, with a black scapular and a black veil. The Religious wear a white linen wimple, and a cord with rosary beads attached forms the girdle.

Establishments :—

England: Franciscan Convent, Taunton; Woodchester, Gloucestershire.

Scotland: Charlotte Street, Glasgow; Aberdeen; Greenock; Inverness, etc.

Others: see Catholic Directories respectively.

Franciscan Sisters of Calais *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation of Franciscan Sisters of Calais devotes itself to all works of mercy, and to the Missions.

Health ana respective qualifications :—

The applicant must be a fervent Catholic, have good health, be of legitimate birth

* The Franciscan Sisters of Calais form an Institute of simple vows, not cloistered, following the Rule given to the regular Tertiaries by Pope Leo X. Their Constitutions received approvals from the Popes Pius IX and Leo XIII. As we have seen, houses of this Institute existed already in the fourteenth century, but the above in its actual form only from the year 1853. At that time Mgr. Parisis, Bishop of Arras, assisted by Father Duchenne, united the Franciscan Religious, then exiled on account of the French Revolution, into one Congregation. The new Congregation received a legal existence by an imperial decree on April 12th, 1854. The *Lauda* was received from the Holy See in 1873. Finally in 1892 Pope Leo XIII approved definitely the Constitutions of this Society.

The Congregation which numbers at present over seventy houses, is governed by a General Superioress elected for twelve years. Each house is directed by a local Superior named by the Council, and is under the control of the Bishop of the Diocese.

The Rule, the Constitutions and Customary do not oblige under pain of sin ; except in so far as their prescriptions concern the Law of God, that of the Church, or religious vows.

The religious exercises, Divine Office, Holy Mass, half-an-hour's Meditation twice a day, examination of conscience, the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, etc., which hold a large part in the Sisters' life, alternate with their exterior occupations, which are chiefly works of charity and mercy, viz. giving instructions in day and boarding schools ; in deaf and dumb schools ; and in orphanages and asylums. They also have the care of hospitals and nurse the sick in their own homes. On the Foreign Missions the Congrega tion has dispensaries, the care of hospitals and schools, catechumenates, orphanages, etc.

Their Missions are in Turkey, Aden, Arabia, on the East Coast o Africa, and in Abyssinia.

and intact reputation, be free from debt, must not have been married, and not have received the religious habit in any other approved Congregation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a suitable outfit, a dowry of £40 should be deposited or assured. Exceptions, however, may be made for very good and well recommended vocations

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from fifteen to twenty-five years of age. If older than twenty-five years, a dispensation possibly from the Holy See is required.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

A Candidate remains a postulant for at least three months. If admitted, she then receives the habit and begins her Noviciate which extends over one full year, and sometimes longer. At the end of her Noviciate she is allowed to make her profession, and take vows for *three* years which may be repeated for three years, followed by perpetual vows.

Future Employment :—

Employments vary according to the wants of the Institutes and the capabilities of the Religious themselves.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Franciscan Sisters, Couvent, rue Eustache S. Pierre (Pas-de-Calais), Calais, France.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has a great number of houses in France, one in England, many in Portugal, several in Belgium, one in Holland. For Foreign Missions : see footnote.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : St. Mary, 10 Chandos Road, Buckingham.

Others addresses as above.

Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Ghost*

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Object of the Institution :—

The Sisters are engaged in visiting and relieving the poor in their own homes. Religious instructions are given to converts.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Those seeking admission into the Congregation are required to be healthy and not suffering from any bodily infirmities.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Aspirants should be provided with a good and suitable outfit. They are also expected to be able to defray all expenses during Noviciate.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are accepted from sixteen to twenty-five years of age.

Preparatory training :—

Postulants are expected to have had a good and sound education. They will be trained to fit them for the various works carried on by the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Birth Certificate.

b. Baptismal and Confirmation Certificates.

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* See also Franciscan Nuns.

c. Good reference from parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate extends over two years, and is followed by the reception of the habit and the taking of temporary vows.

The vows are renewed annually for five years. At the end of five years perpetual vows may be taken.

Future Employment :—

The Candidates are engaged in performing the various corporal and spiritual works of mercy in the parish, district, or place under the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese and the local Clergy.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

St. Chad's Convent, Cheetham Hill, Manchester.

Other Establishments :—

Franciscan Convent, Grosvenor Road, Skegness.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior, St. Chad's Convent, Cheetham Hill, Manchester.

Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Family*

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation has two branches, one contemplative, the other active (see footnote). The sanctification of its own members by enclosure, the celebration of the Divine Office, penance, intellectual and manual work, are the characteristic features of the former branch, while the latter is chiefly devoted to external works of charity similar to those carried on by Franciscan Tertiaries.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good and reliable health is requisite for Admission. Candidates must also be of sound judgment and show ability to exercise more or less some useful office in the Community.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the age of seventeen upwards.

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* The Congregation which was canonically erected at Eupen in 1857 has two branches. The one is contemplative, and cloistered, in imitation of the ancient Order of "Pénitentes-Récollectines" of Limburg founded by Jeanne de Jésus Neerich about the year 1625; the other is active, devoting itself to external works of charity such as attending to the sick in hospitals and in their own homes, having the care and direction of orphanages, workrooms, schools, etc. Mother Elizabeth de Jésus (*née* Mary Catherine Josephine Koch) is claimed to be the foundress of the Institute of Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Family.

The fateful Kulturkampf in 1875, forbidding the Congregation to admit new Novices, caused the Institute to transplant the Mother House to Louvain, Belgium.

Certificates and References required :—

Applicants must produce Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation; also references from the clergy or any other available testimony that bears on their character, training and vocation.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for at least six months. The postulancy is followed by the Clothing and a two years' Noviciate. This is followed by the taking of simple annual vows for five years, after which time they may be made perpetual. The Sisters receive at their profession the scapular with the distinctive sign of the Congregation : the letter M surmounted by a cross.

The Sisters' habit is of black serge, with a grey cord for cincture, and a brown scapular. A large black mantle completes the costume out of doors.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Sœurs Franciscaines de la St. Famille, Louvain, Belgium.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has Establishments in Germany, Belgium, and Holland. See Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House as above.

Good Shepherd Nuns*

(Also known as Order of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd of Angers)

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Object of the Order :—

The chief object of the Good Shepherd Order is the rescue and reformation and pre-

* This, perhaps the most useful and beautiful Order, is an offshoot from the Institute of Our Lady of Charity and Refuge, founded by the Blessed Father John Eudes at Caen, France, in the year 1641.

The first foundation called "Good Shepherd" was made at Angers from the Convent of Our Lady of Charity at Tours, France, in 1829 by Venerable Mother Mary of St. Euphrasia (*née* Rose Virginie Pelletier) (see "Order of Our Lady of Charity and Refuge"), whose cause for Beatification is now before the Holy See. Before her death in 1868 the holy foundress had established as many as one hundred and ten Convents in various countries, six belonging to the English and five to the Irish provinces.

They first came to England in the year 1840, when the new Convent, St. Leonard's-on-the-Sea, was placed at their disposal, but made their first foundation a few months later at Hammersmith, London, where they have at present two flourishing houses.

In connection with the Good Shepherd Nuns must be mentioned the *Order of St. Magdalene*, which is very old. It had numerous houses in the thirteenth century on the Continent, especially in Germany. Although originally founded for repentent women (Reuerinnen) exclusively, at a later date only young women of an irreproachable character were admitted. Their habit was white, the symbol of innocence, and the Nuns followed the Rule of St. Augustine.

One of the first principal foundations was made at Marseilles, France, in 1272. A large Convent of the Magdalen Nuns was opened in Paris in the year 1472. Similiar Institutions were founded in Naples, Italy, in 1314, and in Metz, Germany, in 1432.

From the house in Paris a branch, called Magdalenets, was founded, which Convent, however, was in 1629 entrusted to the care of the Sisters of the Visitation B.V.M., and later on the Ursuline Nuns took charge of it until it became the Hospitallers Institute.

The Good Shepherd Nuns seem to have taken the place of the old Order of St. Magdalene which had been so richly endowed with privileges and blessings by the Popes Gregory IX (1227-1241) and Innocent IV (1243-1254).

servation of girls and women. Besides the homes for penitents which generally adjoin the convents, the Order has also Reformatories, Industrial Schools and Training Homes for young women.

Health and respective qualifications :—

To enjoy good health, to be of a respectable parentage, and to be well recommended for character and disposition for the Religious life are necessary conditions for being admitted into the Order.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The material conditions for admission vary according to circumstances. The Order demands no fixed dowry, and it is for the Mother Provincial to decide.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants of any reasonable age may be admitted. Candidates for Choir Sisters especially are preferred young.

Preparatory training :—

Anyone applying to be a Choir Sister

* A Congregation with similar objects under the title of "Magdalenes of Penance" was founded by the Duke Henry of Silesia in the year 1320. The Order admits Candidates between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one. A dower in addition to a good outfit is not required, but the applicant should have had a good education and be well recommended for her Religious Vocation. The Noviciate lasts from two to three years. Applications, etc., should be addressed to: Mother Prioress, Magdalenen-Kloster, Lauban (Schlesien), or Mother Superior, Maria-Gnadenbrunn (founded 1892), Studenitz (Steiermark).

should have had a good and sound education; she must be able to read and write if a Lay Sister or an Outdoor Sister.

Certificates and References required :—

It is required to produce Certificates of Baptism, Confirmation, and of parents' marriage. References may also be demanded.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate extends over two years in all cases, for Nuns and Sisters alike.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

The postulancy lasts about four months, and if the postulant be admitted, the Clothing takes place and the Noviciate is entered upon, followed by Profession and annual vows for five years. At the end of that time perpetual vows may be taken.

In addition to the three ordinary vows, the Nuns make a fourth : to labour for the salvation of souls.

No penitents may apply for admission into the Order; but if well recommended for a serious practical turn of mind, for piety, and an upright and simple character, they may be admitted into the house of Magdalenes where at the end of two years of Noviciate they can pronounce simple annual vows.

The habit of the Choir Nuns is of white serge. The scapular is white, the girdle blue, and the veil is black.

Indoor Lay Sisters wear a similar habit but their veil is white. Out Sisters wear a black habit. The Magdalenes' habit is brown, but those called "consecrated," *i. e.* who desire to remain always in the Home and have been admitted to consecrate themselves by taking a simple annual vow of stability, wear a black dress and a white cap.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

France : Angers.

Provincial House and Noviciate for England : East Finchley, London.

Other Establishments :—

The Order has about 260 Houses in different parts of the world, of which ten are in the English Province, viz. East Finchley and Hammersmith (both in London), Glasgow, Bristol, Ford and Wavertree (both in Liverpool), Manchester (Blackley), Cardiff, Newcastle, Ashford, Middlesex.

In the United States the Order has fifty-one Houses. Ceylon, Malta, Cairo, Oran, Algiers, Port Said, Suez, Rangoon, Bangalore, and Vellore, each have one. (See Catholic Directories.)

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Provincial, East Finchley, London, N., England.

France, etc. : as above.

Sisters of the Guardian Angel *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters of the Guardian Angel have for their chief object the instruction and care of poor country children. They also visit and tend the sick and direct orphanages.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be sufficiently good to support the Community life and to be of service to the Congregation. A good Religious vocation and a determination to devote their lives to the service of God and that of the poor is also required of Candidates.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry according to circumstances and a pension during probation should be given, especially in the case of a Choir Sister.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are accepted between the ages of seventeen and thirty-five.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirma-

* Founded probably at the beginning of the eighteenth century at Guillon (France), by Gabriel Deshayes, the Mother House was ere long transferred to Lamotte, near Montauban. The Congregation has now Establishments in France and Spain. A new branch "Frères de l'Ange Gardien," with a similar object with equally binding vows, was founded by l'Abbé Ormiers, who also assisted in the foundation of the above Congregation of Sisters.

tion are demanded. Also references from the clergy and Institute of training, if any.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts from eighteen months to two years and is followed by the Clothing. Not until one year after the Clothing are simple vows taken. The vows are renewed annually for nine consecutive years, and after that time they are made perpetual.

The habit is of black serge and comprises a dress, scapular and cape. The cornette and guimpe are of calico.

The Congregation of Sisters of the Guardian Angel, which some years ago counted several hundred professed members, must not be confounded with the *Sisters of Christian Instruction of St. Gildas-des-Bois.* The latter Congregation has a similar object and Constitutions, though a separate branch, and claims to have also been founded by Gabriel Deshayes in the year 1807.

Establishments :—

There are Convents of Sisters of St. Gildas at Langport (Hill House) and Yeovil, England; but of these detailed information could not be obtained.

The Congregation has several Houses with Charitable Institutions in Spain and France. (See Catholic Directories respectively.)

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mère Supérieure, Couvent des Sœurs de l'Ange Gardien (Mother House or any branch house).

Hedwig Sisters *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The chief objects are: the rescue, the education and the protection of poor, abandoned and orphan children. The Sisters conduct homes with poor schools, industrial workrooms, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates, would-be Sisters, must be healthy, be free from hereditary disease and notable deformity. They must also be well recommended for their character and dispositions for the Religious life. The best age to apply for admission is from seventeen to about thirty, older Candidates require a special dispensation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a useful and suitable outfit, Candidates are expected to bring a dowry according to circumstances.

Preparatory training :—

Postulants either qualify for teaching in schools, workrooms, etc., or train for some useful branch in domestic duties.

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* The Congregation was founded at Breslau in the year 1859. It claims as founder Very Rev. Canon Rob. Spiske.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Postulancy extends from six to twelve months, and is followed by the Clothing. The Noviciate lasts two years, at the end of which the vows are taken, first temporary, and after some years, perpetual.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has establishments in the Dioceses of Breslau, Prag, Olmütz, Königgrätz, Leitmeritz and in the Vicariate Apostolic of Denmark.

Postal Address of Mother House :—

Hedwig Schwestern, Breslau IX, Hirschstrasse, 27-29, to which applications should be addressed.

Helpers of the Holy Souls*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The chief object of the Congregation is to secure and deliver from the temporal sufferings of Purgatory the Poor Souls, by prayer and works of mercy.

To visit the poor and relieve their bodily wants, attend to the sick and see to their preparation for death and after death for burial, forms a large part of their works.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Whether for Choir Nun or for Lay Sister health must be sufficiently good to enable the subject to support the Community life and to become a useful member of the Congregation.

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* The Congregation was founded in Paris in the year 1856 by Eugénie Suret, in Religion Mère Marie de la Providence. Having consulted the Blessed J. B. Vianney (Curé d'Ars) about her admirable project in 1855, he not only encouraged her in the undertaking but also gave such valuable assistance that within a year a foundation was made in the Rue de la Barouillère, which house is still their Mother House.

The Congregation was approved by the Holy See in 1878. They came to England at the invitation of the late Cardinal Archbishop in 1873.

The Congregation admits two classes of Associates—Lady Associates and Honorary Members. Both the former and latter co-operate with the Sisters, spiritually—to pray, suffer and labour for the relief of the suffering souls; materially—to assist the poor, visit the sick, etc.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is required, especially in the case of a Choir Nun.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted between the ages of eighteen and thirty. Exceptions may be made in very special cases.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation. References from a priest.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts two years and is begun after some months of postulancy. At the end of the Noviciate, temporary vows are taken, followed by perpetual vows. In addition to the usual three vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, the nuns take a fourth—to pray, suffer and labour for the Poor Souls in Purgatory.

The habit of the Congregation is a very simple one—a black dress and cape with a black fluted cap. When out-of-doors the nuns add a black cloak and veil.

The Congregation counts numerous houses in France, three in Belgium, at Brussels, Liège and Ghent; two in Italy, at Turin and Florence; one at Vienna, one in Jersey, and one in London.

In China they have at Shanghai, charge of European schools, besides Institutes for the aged, cripples and orphans.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superior, Gloucester Road, Regent's Park, London

The Holy Family Sisters *

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Object of the Congregation :—

Personal sanctification through the practice of virtues, chiefly of zeal for the salvation of souls. The Sisters devote themselves to

* The Institute of Holy Family Sisters, which now embraces several Congregations, was founded by the Venerable Abbé (Peter Bonaventure) Noailles, whose singular conception it was to open the field of religious life to all vocations, attractions, and aptitudes with works of charity of every kind and description. The foundation was made at Bordeaux in 1820, when the first three members assembled under one roof under the title Community of Our Lady of Loreto. The charity displayed by the new Congregation brought charity, and the Sisters were now able to offer a home and a refuge to many orphans and young girls exposed to the danger of falling into evil courses. The more the Institute became known the more demands for new foundations were received. It spread with wonderful success not only over France, where alone some two hundred houses were opened, but also over Spain, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Ceylon and South Africa.

The Community, as conceived by the venerable founder is divided into various branches, each of which has its peculiar work, but all live by the same spirit and are subject to one common rule.

1. The Religious of St. Joseph, who consecrate their time and labour to the care of orphans—that most deserving class of children. In large towns they open houses of refuge and establishments where young girls are taught the various branches of work for which they may be fitted. They have houses in France and Spain.
2. The Religious of the Immaculate Conception, who devote themselves to the education of children. * Their works are numerous

* A Congregation under the same title, "Sisters of the Immaculate Conception," was founded at St. Méen by l'Abbé Corvaisir, a member of the Missionary Society of Rennes in Brittany, France. The Religious are chiefly devoted to the education of youth and to attending to the sick. The Mother House of this Congregation has ever been at St. Méen, Ille-et-Vilaine, and it has one branch house in England: Garth House, Ilfracombe, whither applications, etc., from these Islands should be addressed.

every good work and respond to every need with great zeal and devotedness.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be sufficiently good to support the community life. Ability and aptitude to become a useful member is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

By rule an annual pension of £16, or £32 for the two years of Noviciate, in addition to £16 for furniture, and expenses at the taking of the habit.

Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, a dowry of £400 payable on making the first vows.

Sisters of Hope, £200.

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and varied—High Class and Middle Class Boarding Schools, High Class and Middle Class Day Schools, Secondary Schools, Primary or National Schools, Kindergarten and Infant Schools, Hospices, the visitation of the poor. They have many establishments in England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Spain, Belgium, South Africa, and Asia.

3. The Religious of Hope, who nurse the sick. Whilst attending assiduously to the relief of corporal sufferings, the Sister of Hope makes it her chief aim to secure for the soul of her patient the helps and consolations which religion affords. The Sisters of Hope have establishments in England, France, Spain, Belgium, Italy, Germany, America, and South Africa.

4. Solitary Sisters. This branch is contemplative and the members devote themselves to perpetual adoration and intercession for the active members of the Congregation.

5. Sœurs Agricoles, who have the charge and direction of agricultural orphanages established in France, where religious instruction and good moral training is given to peasant children.

For respective detailed Addresses see Catholic Directories.

Lay Sisters, £120.

In case of inability to comply with the whole of the pecuniary conditions, dispensations can be obtained.

Age of Candidates :—

The most suitable age to apply for admission is between eighteen and thirty.

Certificates and References required :—

The applicant must produce Certificates of Birth (from a Registrar) Baptism and Confirmation ; also a reference from her parish priest and any other available testimony that bears on her character, training, conduct, and freedom of state.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

After a postulancy of about nine months, followed by the taking of the habit, a Noviciate of a year and a half is begun, the first year of which is devoted to the religious formation of the aspirant, and the rest to learning her special professional duties. This is followed by the taking of temporary vows. Final profession is not made until after three years at least of Religious life.

The Lay Sisters are called the Sisters of St. Martha, and they are chiefly employed in the domestic work of the Institutions.

Besides the Constitutions to which all the Sisters are subject, each branch of the Holy Family has its own special Directory.

Future Employment :—

According to capacity, requirements, etc. See also footnotes.

Postal Address of Noviciates :—

Besides the Noviciate in France, the Congregation has one in :

England : Highfield, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.

Belgium : Bas-Oha, Province of Liege,

Spain : Hortaleza, Province of Madrid.

South Africa : Bellair.

America : Montreal.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has established juniorates in several countries, the chief in England at Leeds ; in Lozère at Mende ; in Belgium at Liège ; in Spain, at Fromista. See also footnotes.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Convent of Mary Immaculate, Highfield, Rock Ferry, Liverpool.

Other addresses as above.

Institute of Mary (English) *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Institute of Mary has a twofold object: (*a*) the sanctification and salvation of its own members; (*b*) the perfection and salvation of their neighbours. The education and training of young girls, for which the Nuns

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* Like many of the early Orders in the Church of God the Institute of Mary has gone through great vicissitudes since its day of foundation. Although entirely of English origin the first foundation was, on account of Religious persecution at home, made at Munich, Germany, in 1626.

Meanwhile the desolate condition of the Catholics in England after the Reformation made their hearts turn to their native land, and in 1669 Mrs. F. Bedingfield (Suffolk), the then Superioress at Munich, was selected to found a Convent in England. The house opened at St. Martin's Lane, London, had to be closed again; the nuns removed to Hammersmith, and to be able to continue her campaign, she herself went by the name of Long, and the Religious habit of the Community was replaced by a matronly dress and adhered to for one hundred and twenty years. The foundation of the Convent at Dolebank (Yorkshire) followed within ten years that at Hammersmith, and it was inhabited until 1677, when the Sisters came to York and moved to the present site, Micklegate Bar, in 1680. The latter and the Convent at Hammersmith for *one hundred years* contained the *only* Religious Communities in England.

The Revolution in 1689 brought anew stormy and pressing times upon this Community, but the way the house at York was rescued may well be described as miraculous. When the Institute was approved of by Pope Clement XI in 1703 they numbered six houses, four in Germany and two in England. The sixth Superioress of York Convent, Mother Ruby, ventured, along with her Community, to resume the Religious habit.

The Irish branch was founded in 1821, the first foundation being the famous Loreto Convent at Rathfarnham. From this some sixteen Irish "Loreto" Convents have been established besides other Institutes in America, India and Mauritius.

have gained a reputation, form a large part of their external occupation.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Postulants seeking admission into the Congregation must be of legitimate birth and their health must be good enough to follow the Rule and be of use to the Community.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Candidates should be provided with a good outfit. By Rule they should pay a monthly pension of £1 10s. while probationers and bring a dowry sufficient at least to defray all expenses up to the Noviciate inclusive; but if a well recommended "vocation" is not able to pay anything, it is for the Superior to decide in the matter.

Age of Candidates :—

There is no strict rule as to the age, but from eighteen to twenty-five is the best time to apply for admission. Postulants older than thirty require a dispensation, be it for Choir or for Lay Sister.

Preparatory training :—

A good sound education is requisite and Candidates with dispositions for further study or aptitude for teaching are preferred. For Lay Sisters nothing special is required.

They devote themselves almost exclusively to the household duties.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and of the parents' marriage. Good references must also be produced.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term of postulancy never lasts less than one year for Choir and two years for Lay Sisters. After this time the Noviceship begins and lasts two years. At the end of two years first temporary and after some years perpetual vows are taken. The Clothing takes place upon entering the Noviciate.

The Rule is that of St. Ignatius with Constitutions approved by the Holy See.

The habit of the Sisters is black and very full. The guimpe is large, of white linen, and white cuffs are worn by the Choir Nuns.

The Institute has at present six houses in England, sixteen in Ireland, and several on the Continent. In England they have houses with large boarding and day schools at: Cambridge, York, Manchester, Bowdon, Ascot, London, and Leek. In Germany: Mother Houses at Nymphenburg, Altötting, Augsburg, Bamberg, Fulda, Mainz, etc.

In Austria-Hungary: St. Pölten with many branch houses. For Irish Institutes see *Catholic Directory*.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior of any of the above Establishments.

Institute of Our Lady of the Retreat in the Cenacle *

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Object of the Institute :—

The Institute has for its end a twofold object: (*a*) The sanctification of its own members by liturgical prayer, meditation, spiritual reading and the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament daily exposed on the Altar; (*b*) Works of charity and the sanctification of their neighbour by catechetical instructions in preparation for the Sacraments, spiritual Retreats to married women, young ladies and children, guidance of Sodalities, etc.†

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health sufficiently good to support the Community life and freedom from hereditary disease is requisite.

If diplomas and natural talents are considered

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* The Institute claims a founder and a foundress, Father Jean Pierre Etienne Terme and Mother Thérese (*née* Marie Victoire Couderc). The first foundation was made at La Louvesc, France, in 1826. The Laudatory Decree was received from the Holy See in 1863. In 1870 Pope Pius IX solemnly confirmed the Constitutions and a final approbation was received from Pope Leo XIII in the year 1886. The Society came first to England, Manchester, in 1888, and a handsome and spacious Retreat house was solemnly blessed and opened by his Lordship Bishop Casartelli in 1910. See Sketch of the Religious of Our Lady of the Cenacle and their Retreat work by the Author of the present book.

† General Retreats are preached at fixed times, but private Retreats may be made at any time throughout the year.

useful qualifications, much more is the habit and virtue of obedience and a practical turn of mind for the Religious life.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a suitable outfit Choir Nuns especially should bring a dowry proportionate to their circumstances. Candidates too poor to pay anything may be admitted provided they have all the necessary qualifications.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are preferred young, and the best time to apply for admission is between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five.

Preparatory training :—

A thoroughly good education is required. Certificates, accomplishments, knowledge of languages, are not necessary but useful.

Certificates and References required :—

A Certificate of health may also be demanded.

References from a priest, parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate :—

For Choir Nuns the term of Noviciate extends over two years, for Lay Sisters three years.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing takes place after the first year of the Noviciate, which is preceded by at least three months' probation. At the end of the second year's Noviciate temporary vows are taken, followed later on by perpetual profession.

The habit of the Choir Nun is black with a purple cape; the coif, which has a frilled border, is white, and covered by a black veil. Novices wear a white veil.

Lay Sisters and postulants wear a black dress with a black cape and cap.

Future Employment :—

Recitation of the Divine Office; adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; teaching of Christian Doctrine; apostolate of Retreats.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

The Mother House is at Brussels, Belgium The Noviciate is at Yvoir.

English Noviciate: Convent of the Cenacle, Alexandra Park, Manchester, S.W.

Other houses in England:

Convent of the Cenacle, 63 Stamford Hill London.

Convent of the Cenacle, 7 Lance Lane Wavertree, Liverpool.

Convent of the Cenacle, Atherton Street, New Brighton.

The Institute has also Establishments in Brussels, Fribourg (Switzerland), Menin, Tilbourg (Holland), Milan, Naples, Rome, San Giorgio, Turin (Italy), Charleston, Newport, New York (U.S.A.), etc.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : The Cenacle, Alexandra Park, Manchester, S.W.

Other addresses as above.

Institute of Perpetual Adoration *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The primary object of this Institute is perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The working for and supplying poor churches with vestments, altar linen, etc., forms a large part of the Institute's object. The Nuns also give Retreats for ladies and working girls, prepare children for their First Communion, visit the sick poor and have the care of orphanages, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health and freedom from hereditary disease is requisite. The life of the

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* This Institute was founded about 1855 in Belgium by Mdlle. Anna de Meeus, who became the Mother General. Within fifty years of its foundation the Institute had spread over the whole Continent with houses in Belgium, Holland, Bavaria, Italy and also America. In England there is, as far as can be ascertained, only one house. The Holy See approved the Institute in 1872.

In imitation of the above Institute a Congregation called "Nuns of the Perpetual Adoration" was founded at Rockfild, near Wexford (Ireland), about the year 1874. Its objects are identical with the Institute of Perpetual Adoration, and the Rule of this Congregation is modelled on that of Saint Augustine.

A more primitive Congregation of "Sisters of Perpetual Adoration" was founded in Rome in 1807 by the Venerable Catherine Sordini. The Mother House is St. Giachino dei Monti, Roma, with branch establishments in Innsbruck (Tyrol); Turin, Genoa (Italy), etc. This Congregation, which is contemplative, demands of candidates a dowry of 10,000 kronen, an irreproachable character and useful talents. The Noviciate including postulate lasts two years, and postulants are admitted between the ages of twenty and forty.

Community although not austere is nevertheless a laborious one.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Community having no means of subsistence postulants are required to bring a dowry according to their means. The Orphanages support themselves by sewing, embroidery, etc.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted between the ages of eighteen and thirty. Older postulants require a dispensation.

Preparatory training :—

A very good education is essential. In addition Candidates will be trained, if necessary, to fit them for the different works of the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation; good references are also requisite.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts two years and is preceded by some months of postulancy. At the end of the Noviceship the three vows, of poverty, chastity and obedience may be taken.

The Sisters' dress (not a severe Religious habit) is black, simple and plain. The Choir Sisters wear indoors a black crape cap, while the Lay Sisters have a white muslin cap. When in chapel the professed Nuns wear a black veil, Novices a white one.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, The Convent, Nightingale Square, Balham, S.W.

Little Company of Mary *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Little Company of Mary has for its chief object (*a*) the nursing of the sick without distinction of class or creed, in their own Institutes, in the hospitals, or in the homes of the sick ; (*b*) the sanctification of its own members by the exercises of the contemplative life.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission into the Society must be healthy and strong. A sincere and firm desire for the Religious life and to be well recommended for same is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

No fixed dowry is required, but postulants should be able to defray all expenses for training, etc., up to the Noviciate inclusive. To hold a Certificate for nursing or to possess some other equal qualifications which will lessen the training expenses will be taken into consideration in the question of the dowry.

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* The Congregation was founded at Nottingham (England) about the year 1877 by Bishop Bagshawe and Miss Potter. It counts at the present time some two hundred Religious with Establishments in various countries, a Congregation of trained and devoted nurses of which England may well be proud.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the age of seventeen upwards.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

b. References from the Clergy and also from the College or Institute, should she have been in training.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts some five years in all. Candidates are, previous to their admission into the Noviciate, postulants for about six months. The time of Noviciate is divided between studying the interior spirit of the Congregation, watching in turn before the Blessed Sacrament, and training for nursing to fit them for the work of the Institute.

The Clothing takes place upon entering the Noviciate. At the end of the Noviciate the Sisters take first temporary vows followed by perpetual profession after some years of Religious life.

The Congregation has no Lay Sisters. The habit and scapular are black, the guimpe is white and the veil is blue. When in choir, the Sisters wear a white cloak over their habit.

Postal Address of Mother House :—

Via San Stefano, Rotondo 6, Roma (Italy).

Other Establishments :—

England: 328 Commercial Road, London, E. Convalescent Home, Gunnersbury House, Hounslow; Hyson Green, Nottingham.

Italy: Villa Natalia, via Bolognese, 48 Florence; Villa di San Girolamo, Fiesole.

Ireland: St. John's Hospital, Limerick.

They have also a Noviciate in Chicago III, and Convents in America and Australia and one in Malta.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother House as above, or any of their establishments.

Little Sisters of the Poor *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The chief object of the Little Sisters of the Poor is, in addition to self-sanctification, the care of poor old people above the age of sixty, of either sex and any religion, who are gathered in the Homes of the Institution, and where all their wants are provided for, until death.

Health and respective qualifications :—

The aspirants should have a good spirit, a solid judgment, a suitable character for Community life, sufficient health, and should be able to work and render themselves useful to the Congregation.

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* The Congregation was founded about 1840 in St. Servan, near St. Malo, Brittany, by Father Le Pailleur, the parish priest, assisted by the two seamstresses, Mary Augustine, later Mother General, and Marie Thérèse, who were soon followed by Jeanne Sugar and Fanchon Aubert.

The idea was to support the poor by the poor,—mostly widows who had been deprived of their natural supporters by the treacherous element of the sea ; and the immense success of the work is ample proof of the untold blessing God attaches to the mite of the poor. The Congregation numbers now three hundred and nine houses with six noviciates in various parts of the world.

Pope Pius IX approved the Congregation in 1854. They first came to England in 1861, where they have now Establishments in Bristol, Birmingham, Brighton, Hanley, Leeds, London (three), Liverpool (two), Manchester (two), Newcastle, Plymouth, Preston, Sheffield, Sunderland, Cork, Waterford, Dublin, Carlisle, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

There is no fixed dowry of obligation. The aspirants should bring their outfit, and whatever means they can dispose of.

Age of Candidates :—

The fixed age for admission for the Clothing is from eighteen to forty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

No special training is requisite. The aspirants remain a few months in one of the Houses near the old people, in order to understand the kind of life they wish to embrace.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism, Confirmation, and Marriage of the parents. Information is also asked concerning the aspirants and their families.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The probation (postulancy) before the Clothing lasts ordinarily six months. The Noviciate extends over two years and is followed by the profession.

There are no Lay Sisters, all are in the same rank.

The habit is black, the wimple is white, and when out-of-doors the sisters wear a

large black cloak with a hood over their habit. Novices are dressed in black with cape and cap.

Future Employment :—

After the profession the Little Sisters are employed according to their strength and aptitude in the different works of the House, or in collecting alms. There are no servants, all the work is done by the Little Sisters with a little help from the old people still capable of rendering assistance.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

The Mother House and the principal Noviciate are at La Tour St. Joseph en St. Pern, Ille-et-Vilaine (France).

There are also Noviciate Houses in Italy, Belgium, Spain, and the United States, and many Convents.

The Congregation possess nineteen Establishments in England, four in Scotland, and three in Ireland.

The Mother Provincial resides at London, Portobello Road, Notting Hill.

The German headquarters are at Les Bordes, near Metz ; Strassburg (Ludwigplatz), and Colmar (Papierweg).

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother House as above or any of their Convents. See footnote, also Catholic Directories.

Marist Sisters *

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Object of the Society :—

The object is a twofold one : (*a*) The imitation of the virtues of Our Blessed Lady, its Mother and model; (*b*) Teaching Elementary Schools, Boarding Schools, and Orphanages. Care of sick in Hospitals and Infirmaries.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicant must have good health and belong to a respectable family.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is required, but no vocation is refused if the Candidate is educated and suitable.

Lay Sisters must be suitable to their work. They are almost exclusively employed in the household duties.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are received from the age of sixteen to thirty years. Exceptions are

* The Society is the female branch of the Marist Fathers' Society which was formed in 1816 in the Diocese of Belley, Ain, France. The Holy See canonically approved the Missionary Society in 1836, and Father Colin was elected Superior. The latter is said to have founded the first Community of Marist Sisters which received approval from the Sacred Congregation in 1884.

sometimes made to this rule, and it is for the Mother General to decide.

Preparatory training :—

A training previous to admission is not requisite. Candidates are prepared and trained to fit them for the different works carried on by the Society.

Certificates and References required :—

Baptismal Certificate is obligatory. Also Teaching and Nursing Certificate if trained. The applicant must produce references from the parish priest or other qualified persons.

Time Noviciate :—

The Noviciate lasts two years. Before Clothing one year. Before Profession one year. The same time is required for Lay Sisters.

Course and time of Clothing and Profession :—

After the first year's probation postulants receive the habit, and at the expiration of the second year they are admitted to make temporary vows. After five years' profession they are allowed to make perpetual vows (if they have attained the age of thirty years).

The habit and the veil of the Choir Sisters are of dark blue. Lay Sisters wear the

same coloured habit ; instead of a veil they wear a white cap covered with a hood of a similar material as the habit.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Couvent des Religieuses Maristes, Habay la Neuve, Belgique.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has a number of establishments in France, Belgium, Ireland, Fiji Islands and Sydney, Australia.

In England they have five Convents, viz. Fulham, Peckham, Spitalfields, Tottenham and Richmond.

For Application or further information, apply to :—

England : Marist Convent, Grove Lodge, Richmond, Surrey.

Other addresses as above respectively.

Martha (Sisters of Saint)*

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Object of the Institute :—

The Sisters of Saint Martha have for their object: (*a*) self sanctification by the observance of the three simple vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and the

* A Community of Sisters of Saint Martha was founded in the year 1643 at Périgueux, Dordogne, France, by Antoinette and Jeanne Tuilhard with the primary object of devoting their energies and lives exclusively to the care of the sick poor, then housed at the Hôtel-Dieu, Perigueux. In 1650 the Constitutions of the Institute received approval from the local Bishop. From the Hôtel-Dieu, the Mother House, a branch was founded at Angoulême and others in succession. Until 1852 the various houses were independent of each other, but nine chief Establishments were then united under one General and a uniform habit was adopted.

A Community of "Sisters Hospitalliers of Saint Martha" was founded at the request of Nicholas Rolin, chancellor to Philippe le Bon, Duke of Burgundy, by six Religious of the Congregation of Béguines from Malines. The first foundation, which out of many remains the principal one, was the Hospital at Beaune founded in 1443.

In the year 1813 Mlle. Edwige du Vivier, full of zeal and piety, founded in Romans (Drôme) a Religious Society called "Congregation of Saint Martha," with the object of instructing the poor and ignorant youth for whom free schools were opened. In 1816 the Religious habit was adopted, Constitutions drawn up, and the vows were made. The Congregation prospered and counted already in 1850 as many as thirty Establishments with their Mother House at Romans (France).

The Congregation of "Sisters of Saint Martha, or of Orphans," was founded in 1831 at Grasse by l'Abbé Michel and Marie Claire Roubert. The members of this Congregation take simple vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, and their chief object is self sanctification and all works of charity towards their neighbour. Education, the care of the sick, of boarding-houses, orphanages, etc., form a large part of the Sisters' external occupation. In the middle of the nineteenth century the Sisters of Saint Martha of Grasse had nine Establishments with one hundred Religious mainly in the Diocese of Fréjus, France.

practice of Christian virtues; (*b*) the practice of all works of charity and mercy towards their neighbour, such as Education of youth, the care of Orphanages, visiting and relieving the sick poor, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Fairly good health, and, in the case of a Choir Sister, qualities necessary to be a good teacher or an efficient nurse are required for admission. Candidates must also have a strong desire to acquire perfection and be of a firm determination to devote themselves to the service of God and of their neighbour in the Congregation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A suitable outfit is always required. Candidates are also expected to bring a dowry. By Rule Choir Sisters should pay £120 and Lay Sisters £40. Poor Candidates unable to bring a dowry may find admission provided they are well recommended for their intellectual and moral qualities.

Age of Candidates :—

The Institute of Saint Martha admits postulants up to twenty-five years of age. Candidates older than twenty-five require a special dispensation from the local Bishop.

Preparatory training :—

A good education and if possible a special

training either for teaching or nursing is desirable. Candidates of a merely average education will be trained to fit them for the various works carried on by the Institute.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation; good references bearing upon the character and the family of the Candidate must also be produced.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The postulancy in each case, extends over six months at least, sometimes longer. The Clothing takes place as a rule after twelve months. The Noviciate lasts two years for all. At the end of the Noviciate the Novice takes simple temporary vows. The vows are renewed annually for five successive years. At the end of that time final vows may be taken.

Institutions of Sisters of Saint Martha are found almost in every country, especially on the Continent (see Directories respectively).

Canada : Mother House at Antigonish, N.S.

The Sisters of Sainte-Marthe de Périgueux

have one Establishment at Park Road, High Barnet, London,

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General, Couvent Sainte-Marthe, La Cité, Périgueux, Dordogne, France ; or the Convent, St. Marthe, High Barnet, England.

Most Holy Redeemer (Order of the) *

(Also called Redemptoristines)

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Object of the Order :—

The sanctification of the Religious by the exercises of the contemplative life. Intercessory prayer, especially for the most abandoned souls. Increase of devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament; in the public chapel there are daily Mass and Benediction, and frequently whole days of exposition and adoration.

Health and respective qualifications :—

For Choir Sisters there is required sufficiently good health to enable them to lead the common life of the Community, which can be done without difficulty by those of ordinarily good constitution. For Lay Sisters good health and bodily strength are required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

As the Communities live on the interest of their capital, Choir Sisters should bring

* Founded at Scala (Amalfi, Italy) by St. Alphonsus Liguori in 1731. Approved and confirmed by Benedict XIV in 1750.
The Order has Convents in various parts of the world. They came to England in the year 1879, where they have now one Convent. A full Community is composed of thirty-three professed nuns, in honour of the thirty-three years of Our Lord's life on earth, and of seven Lay Sisters.

a sufficient dowry to contribute to the support of the Convent. For Lay Sisters no dowry is required.

Age of Candidates :—

By Rule, Candidates are accepted from seventeen, the youngest canonical age, up to thirty. The limit of age, however, would be determined by the health and dispositions of the postulant and by the consent of the Community.

Preparatory training :—

A good education is required for Choir Sisters, and sufficient intellectual capacity to enable them to occupy themselves usefully. A knowledge of languages is an advantage.

Certificates and References required :—

A reference or introduction from a priest or responsible person is required, and also Baptismal and Confirmation Certificates.

Time of Noviciate :—

The time of Noviciate for Choir Sisters is two years, for Lay Sisters four years.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

Choir postulants are clothed a year after their entrance, and professed a year after their Clothing.

For lay postulants these intervals are doubled.

Future Employment :—

The employment of Choir Sisters after profession includes chanting and reciting the Divine Office, the spiritual exercises of the Rule, needlework for the Community and the poor, and other occupations assigned by obedience. The Lay Sisters do the washing, cooking and harder work of the Convent, while the Choir Sisters perform the lighter duties.

The habit of a Choir Nun is red, in memory of the Passion, with a blue scapular in honour of Our Lady. The nuns wear a blue mantle over the habit. The guimpe is white, over which they wear a white and a black veil. The latter can be drawn over the face. The nuns wear closed sandals of white leather.

The Lay Sisters' habit is the same, except that they wear no mantle nor black veil.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

England : The Redemptoristine Convent of St. Alphonsus, Clarence Road, Clapham Park, London, S.W.

Germany : Marienthal bei Wittem (Holl-Limburg) ; Mauer bei Wien ; St. Annakloster, Lauterbach, Bregenz, Tirol.

Belgium : Brussels, Belgique.

Each Monastery of the Order is independent. See Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : The Mother Superior, Clarence Road, Clapham Park, S.W.

Other addresses as above respectively.

Notre Dame Nuns *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The chief object of the Notre Dame Nuns is the education of youth and the instruction and sanctification of their neighbour.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants should enjoy good health and be well disposed for the Religious life. The Congregation admits as lay boarders, pious ladies wishing to lead a retired life. For assisting in teaching, etc., the Holy See has granted them to participate in the Communities' spiritual benefits and merits.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A small dower is required by Rule. Candidates who hold a certificate for teaching may be admitted without a dowry.

The dowry of Lay Sisters should be according to their means.

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* The Congregation des Filles de Notre Dame was founded by the Venerable Jeanne de l'Estonnac, Marquise de Montferrant, in the year 1606, and received the approval of the Holy See as one of the first teaching Orders in 1607. This is the real primitive Congregation of Notre Dame Sisters. Having borrowed the Constitutions from St. Ignatius, it was in 1608 affiliated to the Benedictine Order, in whose privileges the members of the Congregation participate.

Other Congregations of a similar title and nature have been formed in succession. (See Contents.)

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants for Choir and Lay Sisters are admitted from eighteen years upwards.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation and of training, if for Choir Sister and teacher. References from a priest and testimonials, if the Candidate has been employed in teaching.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate extends over two years and is preceded by some months of probation. At the end of the Noviciate, profession takes place and the Sister pronounces temporary vows. The Choir Sister is called Mother after ten years of profession.

The Community is divided into three classes: Choir Nuns, indoor Lay Sisters, and outdoor Lay Sisters. The habit is similar to that of the Benedictine Nuns. (See Benedictines.)

Establishments :—

The Notre Dame Nuns counted, previous to the French persecution, some thirty-five Convents in France. In Spain they have about the same number. The Congregation has also houses in Italy and America. In England there are at present two Convents—one at Tollington Park, London,

with a large boarding school for girls, and one at Canterbury.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Notre Dame Nuns, Tollington Park, London.

For others see Catholic Directories.

Notre Dame de Sion *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation of Notre Dame de Sion has for its chief object, apart from the sanctification and salvation of its own members, to pray for the conversion of the Jews, to direct schools and to take care of newly converted Jewish children.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health sufficiently good to support the Community life is requisite. Freedom from hereditary disease and from any notable defect is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Applicants should be able to bring, in addition to a suitable outfit, a small dowry, especially in the case of a Choir Nun, but

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* The origin of the Congregation may be truly considered to be the outcome of the miraculous conversion of a rich young Jew, Rev. Marie Alphonse Ratisbonne, which took place in the Church of St. Andrea delle Fratte, Rome, in the year 1842. He and his brother, Rev. Théodore Ratisbonne, then already a priest, decided conjointly to devote henceforth their lives and energies to the conversion of their brethren and to the education of children of all religions. A first foundation was made in Paris in 1843, a larger Establishment had to be opened in 1845 and the title Notre Dame de Sion was adopted by the Community, which increased rapidly and has spread since over various parts of the world.

The various Institutes are directed spiritually by the Priests of Notre Dame de Sion, the male branch of the Congregation, a Society of secular priests, which includes lay brothers.

to be qualified for teaching is considered a sufficient substitute.

Age of Candidates :—

Young postulants are preferred, and the best time to apply for admission is between eighteen and twenty-seven.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Nuns a fairly good education is always required. Lay Sisters must be able to read and write their own language correctly.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates are required to bring Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation and also good references from the clergy or other trustworthy persons.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for at least three months. After admission the Noviciate is entered upon, which extends over two years. At the end of the Noviciate annual simple vows are taken, and after twelve years of simple vows they are pronounced for life.

The habit for both Choir and Lay Sisters is very much the same, a black and graceful dress, capes, veils, and a pretty shaped wimple.

Establishments :—

The Congregation of Notre Dame de Sion has Convents in almost every country in Europe, America, Australia, Africa, Asia, etc. In Jerusalem they have a large Convent on the road to Calvary, called Ecce Homo, and an Orphanage in the mountains of Judea.

The Mother House along with the Noviciate has always been in Paris. In England they have three Establishments with boarding houses and schools, viz. Bayswater, Holloway and Worthing.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Convent of Our Lady of Sion, Chepstow Villas, Bayswater, London.

Notre Dame School Sisters

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Object of the Congregation :—

The chief object of the Congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame is the care and education of the young. They have and take charge of schools of any sort, orphanages, boarding schools, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Postulants seeking admission should be strong, energetic, and have no physical defect.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is required, the amount of which is

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* The Congregation is a branch of the Community of Notre Dame Sisters founded by St. Peter Fourier in Lorraine as a Teaching Order. It was introduced into Bavaria in the year 1833 by Dr. Wittmann, Bishop of Ratisbon. The Constitutions, somewhat modified from the original in order to meet the requirements of the times, were approved of by Pope Pius IX.

The Order has Convents in almost every part of the world and numbers about 7000 professed Nuns.

The Congregation of "*Notre Dame de Montréal*," with similar objects and constitutions, claims as foundress Marguerite Bourgeoys of Troyes (France), declared Venerable in 1878. Having been invited to teach in Canada, she opened her first school at Ville-Marie (Montreal) in 1657, which, in the course of time, was succeeded by a large number of others, day and boarding schools for middle and upper class The Rules and Constitutions of the Congregation received approval in 1689, and it was not until then that the members of the Community pronounced the Religious vows. To-day (1912) the Congregation numbers about 130 Convents in 21 Dioceses, with no less than 1500 professed Sisters. See *American Catholic Directory*.

fixed according to personal and family circumstances.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates for the Order are admitted from fourteen to twenty-nine years of age.

Preparatory training :—

Candidates who are not qualified already upon their admission will receive a training to become so.

Certificates and References required :—

The usual Certificates and references such as Birth, Baptism and Confirmation Certificates, references from the clergy and college of training are requisite.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate lasts from one to two years and is entered upon after about one year's probation (postulancy).

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing does not take place until after at least twelve months for Lay Sisters; and in the case of Choir Nuns, not until they are qualified. At the end of the Noviciate simple vows for seven years are taken followed by perpetual profession.

The habit of a Choir Sister is a black trainless robe; a large white guimpe and a black

veil lined with white. To this they add occasionally a black long mantle and over-veil.

Lay Sisters have a similar habit but their veil is white.

Future Employment :—

Choir Nuns are employed according to Certificates and training.

Lay Sisters are mostly employed in household duties.

Postal Address of Mother House :—

School Sisters of Notre Dame, Mother House, Munich, Unteranger, Germany.

Other Establishments :—

The Order has now 272 houses in Europe and 268 in America.

The School Sisters of Notre Dame have five headquarters (called Mother Houses) in Europe, and three in America, each of which has its own training college.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Shooter's Hill, Woolwich.

For other countries see Catholic Directories respectively.

Notre Dame Sisters (Namur) *

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Object of the Congregation:—

The Congregation of Notre Dame of Namur has for its chief object the education of youth. Originally they opened free schools for the poor, which soon brought them to the fore in elementary and secondary education. It is to-day a renowned teaching Congregation with elementary and ladies' boarding schools, training colleges for mistresses, etc.

Health and respective qualifications:—

Postulants seeking admission must have good health, a sound judgment, and be of honourable parentage.

Pecuniary means required:—

Besides a good and suitable outfit, a dowry is required, the amount of which is fixed

* The Congregation of Sisters of Notre Dame was founded in Amiens, France, in the year 1797-1803 by Madame Madeleine Blin de Bourdon, in Religion Mère Joseph, and by Mother Julie Billiard, who was declared Blessed in 1906. The latter is looked upon as the real foundress of the Congregation. In 1807, having established several houses in France, a new and large foundation was made in Namur, Belgium, which was joined in 1809 by the Community of Amiens and became henceforth the Mother House and Noviciate for Europe. A first batch of Sisters crossed the Ocean in 1840 and a foundation was made at Cincinnati. They came to England in 1845. The Holy See approved of the Congregation in 1844. The Constitutions are those of St. Ignatius. The Congregation has in all over 3000 members and more than one hundred establishments.

according to the applicant's personal and family circumstances.

Age of Candidates :—

The Congregation has no strict rules as regards age, but young Candidates are preferable.

Preparatory training :—

It is required that Candidates should be well educated, and unless they hold a certificate on admittance, talented subjects as a rule receive the necessary training in the Congregation's own establishments.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation.

References from the parish priest, spiritual director, or superior of Institute.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Previous to entering the Noviciate Candidates are postulants for a more or less prolonged time. If admitted they receive then the habit. The Noviciate lasts two years. At the end of the Noviciate the Sister takes temporary simple vows at different periods followed by perpetual profession.

The habit is black with a large white wimple over which a black veil is worn. When out-of-doors the Sisters wear a large mantle

over their habit. Novices wear a white veil.

There are four Noviciate Houses, viz :—

a. Namur, the Mother House for Belgium, England, the Congo, Zambesi.

b. Cincinnati (Ohio).

c. San José, California, for the Western States of America.

d. Waltham, Massachusetts, for the Eastern States of America.

The Notre Dame Sisters of Namur have Convents in England at Clapham, Blackburn, Liverpool, Manchester, Northampton, Wigan, Sheffield, St. Helens, Plymouth, Norwich, Birkdale, Battersea, Brixton, and Leeds.

In Scotland they have one House at Dowanhill, Glasgow.

A German branch was founded by Bishop John G. Müller, Münster. This Congregation has spread over the Dioceses of Münster, Paderborn, Osnabrück, Roermond (Holland), Cologne.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior of the Noviciate Houses respectively as above.

Nuns of Jesus and Mary*

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Object of the Society :—

The Society of Jesus and Mary unites the contemplative with the active life. It has for its chief object, after the sanctification and salvation of its own members by liturgical prayer, meditation, etc., the education and training of youth.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is required along with an irreproachable character and a fixed determination to devote oneself to the service of God in the Society.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Candidates are expected to bring a dowry in addition to a suitable outfit. Exceptions are sometimes made, especially in the case of a well recommended and trained Candidate able to teach.

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* The Society, like several other Institutions of the eighteenth century, is the outcome of the French Revolution. It was founded in the year 1816 at Fourvières, Lyons, and claims a founder and a foundress, Father A. Coindre and Claudine Thevenet, the daughter of a rich merchant of Lyons, whose two brothers had been executed on account of their Faith. The foundation was made by turning her house into a school and refuge for poor children and those in danger of their Faith. A boarding school was opened in 1822, and in the course of time numerous houses were established in Europe, India, Canada and the U.S. of America.

The Rule is that of St. Augustine and the Constitutions were approved by the Holy See in the year 1847. The Congregation came to England at the invitation of the Bishop of Northampton.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen years upwards.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Nuns a good, sound education is indispensable. For Lay Sisters nothing above the ordinary education is required.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. References from the parish priest or from the Institute of training.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for some months at least. If admitted, they are then clothed and the Noviciate is entered upon, which lasts two canonical years. At the end of the Noviciate the ordinary vows are taken for five years, after that for life.

The habit is black, over which Choir Nuns wear a long mantle and Lay Sisters a cape. They wear no wimple and binder, but a black cap over which Choir Nuns wear a black veil.

Future Employment :—

The active part of the life of a Choir Sister is almost exclusively devoted to teaching; Lay Sisters are employed in the housework

and in assisting the Choir Nuns as far as possible.

Establishments :—

The Society of Sisters of Jesus and Mary has Convents and Institutions in France, Spain, Canada, U.S. America, India, Thibet, Africa, Italy, Switzerland and England. See Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Convent, Willesden, London, N.W.

Oblates of St. Francis of Sales*

* * *

Object of the Congregation:—

In addition to self-sanctification the Congregation devotes itself to educating and rescuing youth and also to Mission work abroad.

Health and respective qualifications:—

Health must be good; the Sisters' life although not austere is yet a very laborious one. Candidates must also be well recommended for their character, piety and sound judgment.

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* This Congregation is the Mother branch of the Oblate Fathers of St. Francis of Sales (see *Vocations*, Vol. I. p. 92) founded in 1871 at Troyes (France) by Venerable Louis Brisson, which to-day has a number of educational and other establishments of charity in the various parts of the globe.

Mother Mary of Sales Chappuis is claimed to be the foundress of the women branch of the Congregation. Her object was to assist, as far as possible, the Fathers chiefly in Missionary countries by instructing and educating the young.

A Congregation called "*Sœurs de Ste. Marie de Lorette*," founded by l'Abbé C E. François, and chiefly devoted to the alleviation of the sufferings of the Souls in Purgatory, joined the ranks of the Oblates of St. Francis of Sales whose name they adopted.

A first Society of *Oblates* was founded by St. Frances of Rome in the year 1433 under the Rule of St. Benedict, for ladies of noble birth seeking the spiritual advantages and the seclusion of a convent enclosure. They made no vows or profession, but an *oblation* of themselves to God and a promise of obedience to the Superior for the time they should wish to reside in the convent. In England there is a Convent of *Oblates of St. Benedict* at Alpha Road, New Cross, London, S.E.; they, however, declined to give any information concerning their Community.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Besides a good and suitable outfit, a fixed dowry is not required for admission. Candidates, however, should bring a dowry according to their circumstances, and be able to defray, in part at least, the Noviciate and training expenses.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are accepted from seventeen to thirty-five years of age.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates must submit: Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation ; references testifying irreproachable character and freedom from impediments.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

After a postulancy of about six months, the Candidate, if admitted, enters the Noviciate, which extends over one year and sometimes longer. At the end of the Noviciate, simple temporary vows are taken, followed by perpetual profession.

Establishments :—

The Oblate Sisters of St. Francis of Sales with their Mother House at Troyes (France) have a number of Establishments both on the Continent and across the Atlantic. At Zicalpa (Ecuador) they

have the care of a first class college (Santa Rosa) for young ladies, and a flourishing school at Canar.

In the British Islands they have houses at Margate and Walmer.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Oblate Sisters of St. Francis of Sales, Margate.

Our Lady of Charity and Refuge (Order of) *

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Object of the Order :—

The Order of Our Lady of Charity and Refuge has for its object, in addition to the perfection and salvation of its own members, the rescuing, training and protecting females who either have fallen, or may be in danger of falling, from virtue into a vicious life. The Nuns have also the care of Institutes and female Reformatory Schools.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health, a sound judgment and a strong desire for perfection and for the service of God and of their neighbour, are requisite.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Order has no fixed rule as to a dowry, but in addition to a suitable outfit, Candidates are expected to defray, in part at least, the expenses of their postulancy.

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* The Order was founded by the Blessed Père Eudes and Madeleine Laury in the year 1641 at Caen in Normandy, France, and was approved by Pope Alexander VII in 1666. The Houses of this Order are all independent of each other, without a Generalate, and the charitable work of rescuing and reforming girls and women who have fallen from virtue and of protecting those in danger, as described by the founders, is carried on under the direction of a Superioress and of the local Bishop of the Diocese.

In the year 1835 the Community at Angers sought and obtained, for the common good, permission from the Holy See to form themselves into a separate Congregation and to be governed by a Superior General. See "Good Shepherd Nuns."

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen years upwards.

Preparatory training :—

In the case of a Choir Sister a good education is indispensable. Lay Sisters should be able to read and write their mother language correctly.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation, and also of training, if they have had any.

Good references relating to the Candidate and also to her family.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a postulancy of at least three months, the postulant is clothed and begins her Noviciate, which lasts two years. At the end of the Noviciate annual vows are taken for five years, followed by perpetual profession.

The habit of a Choir Nun is of white serge, with a white wimple and a black veil. Novices and Lay Sisters wear a white linen veil.

Establishments :—

The Order has three houses in England—Waterlooville, Cosham, Hants ; Bitterne Southampton ; Bartestree, Hereford.

In Ireland they have Establishments at High Park, Drumcondra, Dublin.

The Order has in all some thirty Houses in various parts of the world, viz. Loreto, Italy; Bilbao, Spain; Ottawa, Canada; Buffalo and Pittsburg, U.S.A., etc., etc.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superior of any of the above Houses.

Others: see Catholic Directories respectively.

Pallottine Missionary Sisters *

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Object of the Society :—

The special object of the Order is to help on foreign Missions by educating and teaching children, visiting the poor, nursing the sick, etc. Similar work is done in the houses in Europe as a means of preparing for the Missions.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates must enjoy general good health, be free from any deformity, and be of respectable parentage.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry according to circumstances, and to meet the expenses of the time of Noviciate, etc., the sum of £50 is required ; payable in three terms ; £15 at the time of reception, £15 at the beginning of the Noviciate, and £20 at the time of Profession. In addition to this, Candidates should be provided with a good and suitable outfit.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen to thirty years of age.

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* The Society was founded at Rome in 1850 by the Venerable Vincent Pallotti, a Roman priest, who founded also the Missionary Society of Pallotinian Fathers at Rome in the year 1835. They have Establishments in almost every part of the world, but chiefly in Missionary countries.

Candidates that have worn the habit of any other Society may not apply.

Preparatory training :—

Candidates must be qualified or trained either in teaching, nursing, needlework, cookery, house-duties, or gardening. Good preparatory training or studies will be taken into consideration in the question of the dowry.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation and of parents' marriage; good references from parish priest, Institute or previous employers.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for one year; the Noviciate extends over two years; followed by temporal vows for one year, then for two years, then for three years; after this time perpetual vows are taken.

The Sisters' habit and veil are black, the wimple is white, similar to that of the Tertiaries Regular, whose Constitutions and Rule the Congregation has adopted.

Future Employment :—

The Sisters are all equal and will be employed, according to their capacity and to the judgment of their superiors, in the

various duties of the Society, either in Europe or on Foreign Missions.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Kloster "Marienborn," Limburg, Lahn, Nassau, Germany.

Establishments :—

The Society has a number of Convents on the Continent and also in America. They came to England at the invitation of the Right Rev. Dr. Casartelli, Bishop of Salford, in 1910, and made a foundation at Rochdale, near Manchester, where they have a flourishing boarding school.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House (see above).

England: Mother Superioress, Convent of the Holy Family, Rochdale, Lancashire.

Poor Clares*

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Object of the Order:—

The Order of Poor Clares is contemplative in its observance and Apostolic in its object. They devote most of their time to liturgical prayer and meditation and lead a life of perpetual fasting and mortification, and all they do is offered to God for the salvation of mankind.

Health and respective qualifications:—

Good health is absolutely necessary to observe the Rule of the Poor Clare Colettines, which obliges the Religious to perpetual fasting and abstinence and to Midnight Office.

Pecuniary means required for Admission:—

The postulants are expected to defray the expenses of the Noviciate, anything over

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* The Order of Poor Clare Nuns, founded at Assisi, Italy, in 1212, derives its name from the foundress St. Clare and from the extreme poverty of its Rule. They are also called Minoresses, being the Second Order of St. Francis. The Order was approved by Pope Innocent III and confirmed by Honorius III in 1223. The Poor Clares *Colettines* are those who adopted the Constitutions of St. Colette who in 1410 at Besançon reformed the Order, which had become relaxed, and restored it to all its original austerity.

Leading lives analogous to those of the Franciscan Friars, Clares have always been found willing to embrace reforms equal in austerity to those which the former have in the course of time adopted. Hence the Cordelières known as Filles de l'Ave Maria; the Capuchinesses; the Recollettes; the Tiercelines, known as Filles de St. Elizabeth, and others.

The Clares Urbanists of the mitigated Rule were introduced into England by Blanche Queen of Navarre in 1293.

that is given as an alms for the support of the Community.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants can be received from eighteen years upwards, to about thirty.

Preparatory training :—

As the Nuns devote themselves almost exclusively to contemplation and chanting the Divine Office day and night, a special training, although useful, is not required for admittance.

Certificates and References required :—

Postulants are required to furnish testimonials of Baptism, Confirmation, and also a Doctor's Certificate of health.

Time of Noviciate, and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for six months.

If admitted they then begin their Noviciate, which lasts the canonical year and one day.

At the end of the Noviciate they take first temporary vows, followed by perpetual profession.

The Nuns' habit, scapular, and under-tunic are of thick coarse brown cloth. The wimple and binder are white, over which they wear a black veil. They go barefoot indoors.

The Lay Sisters' habit is like that of the Nuns, but when indoors they wear a white veil. They wear sandals when out collecting alms.

The Poor Clares Colettines wear no scapular, and in some houses the colour of their habit is grey as it was originally.

Future Employment :—

Choir takes the greater portion of the Nuns' time, and then household duties.

Lay or "extern" Sisters collect alms or are employed in manual labours.

Establishments :—

The Poor Clares Colettines have now six houses in England, four of which were founded directly from Bruges, itself a filiation of the Convent at Ghent, where St. Colette died. They are: Baddesley Clinton, Warwickshire, founded in 1850; Notting Hill, London, 1857; Manchester, 1863; and York, 1865. The other houses, Arundel and Bullingham, were founded from Notting Hill.

The English Poor Clares Urbanists, *i. e.* of the Mitigated Rule, have an Abbey at Darlington which is the only one remaining of three founded in France, from where they were expelled in 1795. In England they successfully combine Educational work with the observance of their Rule.

In Ireland the Poor Clares seem to have made their first foundation in 1625. The Abbey, "Nuns' Island," Galway, was founded in 1648; Harold's Cross, Dublin, in 1804; Newry in 1830; Cavan and Kenmare in 1861; Keady, near Armagh, in 1871; Ballyjamesduff in 1872.

On the Continent the Order has Establishments at: (Regensburg); Riedenburg and Viehausen (Bavaria); Düsseldorf; Kevelar; Münster (Germany); Spalato; Krakau; Alt Sandec; Brixen (Austria).

For Application or further information apply to :—

One or other of the Mother Abbesses as above respectively.

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ has a twofold object—self-sanctification and all kinds of outward works of Charity. They have flourishing boarding schools, the care of Hospitals, Homes for the aged poor, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be sufficiently good to enable the Candidate to support the Community life, which although not austere, is yet a very laborious one.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a suitable and sufficient outfit, postulants are required to bring a dowry according to circumstances. A preparatory training entitling one to hold a certificate for teaching, nursing, etc., will be taken into consideration.

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* The Congregation of Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ was founded by Catherine Caspar in Dernbach, Nassau, Germany, in the year 1848. The Congregation grew and spread rapidly over Germany and previously to the lamentable Kulturkampf numbered some ninety Convents in Prussia. They have also houses in Austria, Holland and America. It numbers at present over 2000 members in all with about 200 Establishments. The Congregation was approved by Pius IX in 1870.

Age of Candidates :—

The Congregation admits postulants from the age of eighteen upwards, to thirty.

Preparatory training :—

Although desirable, yet a preparatory training is not obligatory.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. References from the clergy or any other qualified authority.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for some months, and, if admitted, the Clothing takes place and a two years' Noviciate is entered upon. At the end of the Noviciate temporary vows are taken for several years followed by perpetual profession.

Choir and Lay Sisters in this Congregation differ in no respect except in their work.

The habit is a simple one ; black serge, with a long rope girdle, a white guimpe and binder. The veil is black, short and fastened close under the chin.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Kloster der Dienstmägde J. Christi, Dernbach, Unterwesterwald, Germany.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has many Convents (see footnote). In England there are at present three houses ; one at Hendon, with a praiseworthy boarding school ; one at Walthamstow, London, N.E., and one at 17 Mulberry St., Whitechapel, London, E.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, St. Joseph's Convent, Hendon, London.

Poor Servants of the Mother of God*
(Commonly called Sisters or Servants of Mary)

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation combines the contemplative with the active life. Teaching, nursing, the care of Hospitals and Homes,

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* The Congregation was originally founded in 1845 in Prussian Poland by Edmund Bojanowski. The founder, who afterwards prepared for Holy Orders, died shortly before the day fixed for his Ordination. The Congregation with its headquarters at Poremba, near Leschnitz, and at Pleschen, soon spread over the provinces of Silesia and Galicia, in each of which it has a Noviciate and many branch houses.

The Congregation founded in England in the latter half of the nineteenth century is distinct only in government from that of Poland. Mother Mary Magdalen (*née* Taylor) was the first Superior of the English Congregation. The Constitutions of the Congregation are based on those of St. Ignatius, and the Mother House of the English Congregation is at Rome.

A Congregation under a similar title, "Servants of Mary," was founded in Paris about the year 1849 by Mlle. Babet for the protection and training of servant girls. The new Institute counted three Establishments at the dawn of the fateful Religious Persecution in France in 1903.

A Congregation with a similar title and object was founded at Bayonne in 1836. This Institute counted in 1890 as many as 180 Establishments and several in Spain with some 1500 Religious.

Pope Leo XIII definitely approved of this Congregation in 1878.

A similar Community called Sisters of Mary (Marienschwestern), who claim as founder Kuratus Schneider, was established at Breslau in the year 1863. This Congregation devotes itself chiefly to the training, the placing and the care and protection of servant girls. They have also the direction of Industrial workrooms and schools, and attend to the sick. Candidates find admission between the ages of seventeen and twenty-four, and a dowry is not essential. The Noviciate term is two years.

The Mother House of the last named Congregation is at Breslau IX Josephstrasse 5/7, with a large number of branch Establishments in the Dioceses of Breslau, Olmütz and Prague.

or any other works of mercy, form a large part of their occupation. By industrial work the Community endeavours to make the Houses self-supporting.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must be healthy, pious and firmly determined to devote themselves to the service of God and of their neighbour. Candidates who are qualified or trained in teaching, nursing, needlework, etc., are preferable, and their qualifications will be considered in the question of the dowry.

Pecuniary means required :—

Postulants are expected to bring a dowry according to their circumstances. They should also be provided with a good outfit.

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* A Congregation called "*Sisters of the Holy Humility of Mary*" was founded in 1855 at Dommartin-sous-Amance, France, by l'Abbé John J. Begel, the parish priest, and Mlle. Poitier (Mother Mary Magdalen), who is considered the foundress. The Congregation, which has for its object the education of youth, the care of orphans and of the sick, met with difficulties from the French Government, and in 1864, at the invitation of Bishop Rappe of Cleveland, the whole Community went to New Bedford, Pennsylvania, where it has at present a large Establishment. The Congregation, which numbers now (1912) some 250 members, directs two academies and has charge of sixteen parochial schools. The Noviciate lasts from two to three years; the vows are made temporarily for nine years and then become perpetual. The Sisters' habit is of blue woollen material; a white guimpe and bandeau covered by a black veil completes the costume. A new Mother House, "Mount Maria," with a college opened in 1908, was built near Ohio, to which applications should be addressed.

Age of Candidates :—

As a rule Candidates are admitted between the ages of eighteen and thirty.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. References from the parish priest, Institute or previous employers.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The time of postulancy extends over some months, and the Noviciate lasts two years. The Clothing takes place at the beginning of the Noviciate. The Sisters take first temporal vows, followed by perpetual profession. The Congregation has no lay Sisters. The habit and veil are black ; the Sisters' scapular is dark blue.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has many houses on the Continent (see footnote), and to some of their Convents are attached small Hospitals.

The English Congregation has Houses in St. Helens, Lancashire; Liverpool and Streatham, where they have Refuges for Penitents; Roehampton, with the General Noviciate ; Rhyl ; and London, Soho Square.

In Ireland they have a House at Dublin ; one in Co. Cork and Co. Dublin, Rathdown Union.

For Application or further information apply to:—

The Mother Superioresses respectively.

Poor Sisters of Nazareth *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation has for its object in addition to self-sanctification the care of the aged poor, orphan and destitute children of both sexes and all creeds, for which they provide happy homes in "Nazareth Houses."

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is necessary, because the life of the Sisters, although not austere is a very laborious one. Candidates must also belong to a respectable, good family, be free from hereditary disease, and be fully determined to devote themselves to the service of God and of their neighbour.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a good and suitable outfit, a dowry is required the amount of which, according to circumstances, it is for the Mother General to decide. Preparatory

* This beautiful English Congregation with its noble undertakings was founded under the direction of Cardinal Wiseman by Victoire Lamenier, in Religion Mother Saint Basil, in the year 1851. The much admired large Establishment at Hammersmith with its hundreds of aged poor men and women and destitute children was erected between 1853 and 1857. Here as in other branch houses the Sisters provide a home for the poor women above 63 and men above 73 years of age, the poor being supported by the poor. Cheerfulness, simplicity and happiness have long been known to be the characteristics of both the Sisters and their clients.

training and useful qualifications are taken into consideration.

Age of Candidates :—

The Congregation admits Candidates from seventeen to thirty years of age.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. Testimonial from parish priest, Institute or former employers.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate lasts from eighteen months to two years. The Novices, although separated from the Sisters during their Noviciate—this period being devoted to their spiritual training—may nevertheless take part in the tending of the sick, etc.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for at least six months. If admitted they are then clothed and after one year they may be professed. The Sisters' habit and veil are black. The latter is edged with pale blue, and they wear a cloak of the same colour at special Church functions. The wimple and binder are of white linen.

There are no Lay Sisters ; by Rule the Sisters take it in turns to fulfil all the different offices.

Future Employment :—

The Sisters are employed in the care of aged poor and of poor and destitute children, in collecting alms towards their support, and towards educational works, etc., at home or abroad.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Nazareth House, Hammersmith, London, W.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has some fifteen Branch Houses in England, two in Ireland, two in Scotland, one in Wales, one in Australia, and five in South Africa.

England : Hammersmith, Bexhill, Cheltenham, Nottingham, Northampton, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Isleworth, Liverpool, Great Crosby, Lancaster, Chiswick, Southsea and Southend. The latter is called St. Veronica's Retreat and is for Inebriates.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother General, Nazareth House, Hammersmith, London, W.

For others see Directories respectively.

Poor Sisters of St. Francis *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Poor Sisters of St. Francis combine the contemplative with the active life. Absolute poverty, humility, charity, and sacrifice is the interior spirit of the Congregation, while externally their works of charity know no limits. The Sisters feed and support the poor for which they beg alms, they attend to the sick in their own homes, and have charge of hospitals, orphanages, asylums, schools, etc., etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is requisite, for, although the Rule prescribes no austerities yet the Sisters' life is a very laborious one. Candidates must also be of respectable parent-

* The Congregation of Poor Sisters of St. Francis was founded by Francis Chervier in the year 1850. The Society was established in imitation of the Little Sisters of the Poor, and it spread with such remarkable success that within two years six branch houses had been founded. Unlike the French Congregation, whose members were mostly of a humble and working-class descent, the German branch was founded by rich and noble ladies seeking a life of poverty and sacrifice for the love of God, the relief of the poor and the salvation of souls. First of all a house was founded at Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle), where as in other countries they give free meals to the poor, nurse the sick, lodge the homeless, and educate and place poor servant girls.

The Poor Sisters of St. Francis have now a large number of houses with manifold charitable Institutions, especially on the Continent, in America, and in Foreign Missions. The Holy See has approved of the Congregation by a laudatory decree.

age, irreproachable character and sound judgment, willing to devote their lives to the service of God and the salvation of souls.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

By Rule a dowry is required more or less according to the circumstances of the applicant. All Candidates must be furnished with a good and suitable outfit and be able to pay at least in part the Noviciate and training expenses. To hold a qualification for teaching or nursing will be taken into consideration in the question of the dowry.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the ages of seventeen to about thirty. Candidates above that age who possess suitable qualifications may be admitted by exception.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation ; testimonials of good morals from the parish priest, spiritual director, or other competent authority.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

Candidates are probationers for some months ; if giving satisfaction, the postulant is admitted into the Noviciate, which extends over two years. At the end of the Novi-

ciate, annual vows are taken during five consecutive years, and after that time perpetual profession is made.

The habit is of coarse brown cloth with a scapular of the same material. On the latter there is sewn a cross of red cloth The coif and binder are of white linen over which is worn a black veil. Out-of-doors the Sisters wear a long black mantle.

Future Employment :—

The Sisters are sent to the different houses of the Congregation, where employment is given according to ability, training and requirements.

Postal Address of Mother House :—

Kloster der Franciskanerinnen, Aachen, bei Cöln.

Other Establishments :—

The Franciscanerinnen have Establishments in almost every city on the Continent, U.S. America, etc., and several large Noviciate Houses. One of the last but not the least is that at Waldbreitbach, Westerwald, with branch houses in the Dioceses of Trier, Cöln, and Paderborn. See Catholic Directories respectively.

Presentation Nuns*

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Object of the Order :—

Besides the principal end of self-perfection and sanctification, the Order of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary has for its chief object, to instruct female youth, especially the poor, in the rudiments of the Catholic Faith.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be sufficiently good to support the Community life and to become useful members of the Order. Candidates must also be gifted with sound judgment and good dispositions.

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* The Order was founded by Nano Nagle, the foundress also of the Ursuline Convent (Cork), in the city of Cork in the year 1777. Originally a Congregation and known as "Society of the Presentation of Our Lady in the Temple," with the object of "looking after and instructing the poor, tending the sick, etc.," it was raised to the rank of an Order under the title, "Presentation of the B.V.M.," with solemn vows and strict enclosure, by Pope Pius VII, in 1805.

In addition to the three vows the Nuns make a fourth, viz. "to educate and instruct in the Catholic Faith young girls, especially the poor." The Rules and Constitutions of the Order are based upon those of the Ursulines. The Order has no Generalate, each house is independent and under the local Bishop. Close in succession upon the foundation of the Society, the foundress established in the same city the Asylum for aged females. The Order numbers at present over one thousand nuns and about ninety houses, sixty of which are in Ireland, twelve in British America, nine in the States, four each in India and Australia, one in Manchester, and one in Buxton, England.

Pecuniary means required :—

Candidates are expected to bring dowries according to their means. The possession of a certificate for teaching and all other useful qualifications will be taken into consideration.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen years upwards.

Preparatory training :—

A good and sound education is requisite. Uncertificated Candidates will be trained to fit them for the work carried on by the Order.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation ; references bearing upon the Candidate's education, character, etc., from the clergy and from any Institute they may have been at.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

After a postulancy of some months the postulant, if admitted and otherwise qualified, begins her Noviciate, which as a rule extends over two years. At the end of that time simple vows are taken followed by perpetual profession (see also footnote).

The Nuns' habit is of black serge ; a black

veil and a white linen wimple and binder complete their dress.

Establishments :—

The Order has a very large number of Establishments, mostly in Ireland. From the Mother House in Cork five Communities were sent forth in less than twenty years from the time of its foundation, viz. Killarney, 1793; George's Hill, Dublin, 1794; Cork (North), 1799; Waterford and Kilkenny, both in 1800. For Addresses see Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superioress of any of the above. (All houses are self governed.)

Religious of Christian Instruction *
(Dames de l'Instruction Chrétienne)

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Object of the Congregation :—

Education and Instruction of Girls. Social Works.

a. Girls of the Upper Classes : for whom there are Boarding and Day Schools, Retreats and Social Works to help the poor when they leave school.

b. Girls of the Middle Classes : for whom there are Boarding and Day Schools, and Retreats, Clubs and Social Works when they leave school.

c. Girls of the Poorer Classes : for whom there are Orphanages and Day Schools, and Retreats, Clubs and Social Works which will help them when they leave school.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health and sound judgment, but most of all a true vocation is required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is required and it varies according

* The Congregation was founded by Venerable Mère Barat in 1801 and established in the ancient Bernardine Abbey of Dooresele (Ghent) in 1808. Their Constitutions, based on those of St. Ignatius, were approved of by Pope Leo XII in 1827.
The Nuns observe the inclosure as much as possible.

to circumstances for Choir Nuns and Sisters. In each case the amount is settled by the Mother General.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are accepted for Choir Nuns and Sisters from eighteen to thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Nun, such as :

a. University Degree, Certificates from Universities or Public Examinations or other proofs of a good education.

b. Special studies in Art, Music, Nursing, House Management or any other branch useful in a Convent.

c. The capacity and will to prepare for any Exams proposed by the Superiors.

For Lay Sisters, intelligence, strength and capacity for their work.

Certificates and References required :—

Certicates of Birth and Baptism ; references from priests or Institute.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The postulancy last from two to six months, and the Noviciate two years. Two years after the Clothing the final (simple) vows are taken. After profession two more years are spent in the Noviciate.

The habit of both Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters is of black serge with a black shawl. Choir Sisters wear a white cap with frilled border and black veil. Lay Sisters wear a white cap with a pleated border, a black veil and an apron.

Future Employment :—

See "Object of the Congregation."

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate:—

Dames de l'Instruction Chrétienne, Dooresele Abbey, Rue des Prêtres 13 Ghent, Belgium.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation seems to have in all ten houses, six in Belgium. There is only one in England.

They have Training Colleges for Secondary Teachers, Boarding Schools, Day Schools, Elementary Schools, Orphanages.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General, Dooresele Abbey, Ghent, Belgium ; or Mother Superior, St. Antony's Convent, Sherborne, Dorset.

Sacred Heart Nuns *
(Dames du Sacré Cœur)

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Object of the Order :—

The Order has a twofold object—the sanctification and salvation of its own members, and the education of children of the upper classes. They have also poor schools and female orphanages. Their Convents are also open to ladies wishing to make spiritual Retreats.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates must be healthy and well

* The Order claims as founders the Venerable Madeleine Sophie Barat and Father Varin, S J. The first foundation, which became the Mother House, was made at 77 Rue de Varennes, Paris, about the year 1800, and the Institute was dedicated to the Sacred Heart. The Order spread rapidly and counted, previous to the recent expulsion, some forty houses in France and over one hundred in other countries.

The Constitutions, based on the Rule of St. Ignatius, were confirmed by the Holy See in 1826.

The Order has ten Establishments in Great Britain and Ireland.

A Congregation under the title of "Filles du Cœur de Jésus," with the object of Reparation, Adoration and of propagating the Devotion of the Sacred Heart, was founded in 1872 at Berchem-les-Anvers (Belgium) by Mgr. Oswald M. van den Berghe and Mme. Deluil Martiny, who became the first Superioress of the Institute.

In 1878 Pope Pius IX raised the Church attached to the above Convent, which has ever remained the Mother House of the Congregation, to the dignity of a Basilica Minor dedicated to the Sacred Heart, the first of its kind. This much admired and growing Congregation has two classes of Religious—Choir and Lay Sisters; their habit is white and the members are bound by simple vows, first temporal and then perpetual. Particulars of admission, etc., will be forwarded upon application to the Mother Superior, Berchem-les-Anvers, Belgium.

recommended for their character, piety and capabilities.

Pecuniary means required for Admission:—

Postulants are required to bring a suitable outfit and a dowry according to their circumstances. Particulars will be given upon application.

Age of Candidates:—

The Order has no fixed Rules as regards age, and each case is treated on its own merits.

Preparatory training:—

For Choir Nuns a good and sound education is required; also capability and dispositions for further study. Candidates that have been trained and qualified for teaching will be admitted on easier terms provided they otherwise give satisfaction.

Certificates and References required:—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. References from the clergy, Institute of training, or other reliable authority.

Time of Noviciate and Profession:—

The Noviciate lasts two years and is preceded by a postulancy of at least three months. At the end of the Noviciate simple vows are taken; after five years, perpetual profession, at which in addition to the three

Religious vows a fourth is made, viz. to devote oneself to the education of youth.

The habit is a black dress with a black cape; a white muslin cap over which Choir Nuns wear a black veil. Choir novices wear a long white veil.

Future Employment :—

Choir Nuns are chiefly employed in teaching; Lay Sisters perform the ordinary household duties.

Establishments :—

The Order has Convents, Colleges and Schools in almost every country. The Nuns conduct some of the most successful upper-class schools both in England and in other countries, where children of the higher classes receive an education second to none.

It has five Convents in England: Brighton, Carlisle, Hammersmith, Roehampton and Wandsworth.

In Ireland: Mount Auville, Dundrum, and Lower Leeson Street, Dublin; Roscrea, Armagh.

One of the best known is perhaps the much visited large Convent in Rome: Monti de Trinita.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother Superioress of one of the above.

Servants of the Holy Ghost *

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Object of the Congregation :—

In addition to the special honour and devotion to the Holy Ghost and prayer for the universal Church, the contemplative branch of the Community devotes itself to perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and to manual labour for the benefit of Foreign Missions. The Sisters out in the Mission field are devoted to instructing and educating youth, conducting hospitals, orphanages, tending the sick poor and to similar works of charity.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be good and reliable, especially in the case of those who aspire to be sent to Foreign Missions. To be well

* This Congregation is the women's branch of the German Foreign Mission Society (see *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I) founded in 1875 at Steyl (Holland) by the Venerable Arnold Jansen, a secular priest of the Diocese of Münster. The foundation of the female branch of the Society was made at Steyl in the year 1889. It has two separate and distinct classes of Sisters : the Contemplative and the Active Community.

The Congregation was introduced into the U.S.A. in 1901.

A Congregation with similar objects, called "*Sisters of the Holy Ghost*," was founded at Dubuque in 1890 by the Most Rev. John Hennessey, Archbishop of Dubuque. The Mother House of this promising Society is at St. Antony's, West Dubuque, Iowa, to which applications, etc., should be addressed.

Again a Congregation under the same title as the last named was founded for coloured people at San Antonio, Texas. The foundation was made in 1886, and the Community has now (1912) Establishments at San Antonio and at Victoria, Texas. Particulars of admission, etc., will be forwarded upon application.

recommended for their good character, vocation and ability is also required.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted between the ages of seventeen and twenty-six ; above that age under special circumstances only.

Certificates and References required :—

Applicants must produce :

a. Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

b. References from the parish priest or spiritual director, and if they are minors a written consent from the parents or guardians.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Besides a good and suitable outfit, Candidates are expected to pay an annual pension until professed, the amount of which is fixed by the General Superior according to circumstances. By rule postulants should bring a dowry of at least £30.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

Candidates are "Probationers" for some months previous to their formal admittance into the Noviciate. The latter extends generally over eighteen months and is followed by profession and the taking of simple vows. Perpetual vows are not

taken until after some years of irreproachable Religious life.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Contemplative branch : Heiliggeist-Kloster ; Active branch : Herz Jesu-Kloster, Steyl, Post Kaltenkirchen, Rheinland.

Establishments :—

In addition to the above, which are within the boundaries of Holland, the Congregation has establishments in Asia : China, Japan and the Philippines ; in Australia : Kaiser-Wilhelms-Land ; in Africa : Togoland ; in South America : Argentine and Brazil ; in the U.S. : Illinois and Mississippi.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The General—Oberin, Mother House (as above).

Servants of the Sacred Hearts *

(Commonly called "Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.")

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Object of the Congregation :—

To benefit the poor and working classes

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* The Congregation was founded in Paris by l'Abbé Victor Braun in 1866. The pious founder borrowed the Constitutions from St. Francis of Sales with the Rule of St. Augustine adapted to suit the object of the Congregation.

A branch Institute, with parallel Rules and Constitutions claiming the same founder, is the Community of "Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary," with its headquarters at Chigwell, Essex.

This Congregation separated from the "Mother Tree" in 1901 and the Members of this Institution afford Homes to Orphans and Feeble-minded children of both sexes. They superintend Hospitals and Homes for Penitent Women. They also accept the direction of Public Elementary Schools and the training of young girls as Pupil Teachers.

The Community has branch houses with Schools, Homes, Hospitals, Dispensaries, etc., at Limehouse; Highgate; Tottenham; Rotherhithe; Liberton, Edinburgh; West Dingle, Liverpool; Charlotte Street, Glasgow; Aberdare; Old Cumnock; Daliburgh, South Uist, The Hebrides; Rothesay; North Hyde; Oban; Sudbury, Suffolk; Chidcock, Dorset; Special certified School for Feeble-minded Children of both sexes, Pield House, Hillingdon, Middlesex; The Training Home for Pupil Teachers, 25 and 27 Tredegar Square, Mile End; Home for Penitent Women, Durran Hill, Carlisle.

For Application, etc., apply to the Mother General, the Convent, Chigwell, Essex.

A Congregation of a similar title, "Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary," was founded about the year 1818 by Madame Maée and two other pious ladies, assisted by l'Abbé Pierre Monnereau, the parish priest at Brouzils. The Mother House of this Congregation has been for many years at Mormaison, and previously to the disastrous Religious persecution in France the Congregation counted in all as many as 130 Establishments. This Congregation has two classes of Sisters, choir and lay Sisters, and its chief objects are: Instruction and education of youth, care

by the practice of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The Sisters conduct Orphanages, Homes for young girls, Elementary Schools, and have the care of the sick and of the poor in their own homes and in hospitals.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates must be healthy, strong, and free from any notable deformity, in order to be useful in the various works of the Institute. Other qualifications : legitimate birth, an upright judgment, an open character a pious, docile and sociable disposition.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Noviciate pension, £30.
Dowry fixed at £160.

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of schools, orphanages, visitation of the sick and poor, and similar works of Charity.

A Congregation of the above title with a similar object was founded about the same time by Amelie Virginie Fristel at Paramé by Rennes, Brittany.

A Community, also of the same title, arose from a boarding school founded about 1840 at Nivelle by Sophie Crousse. The Rule of this Congregation is that of the Dames of the Sacred Heart (see Index), and the members devote themselves chiefly to teaching.

Another Congregation of the same title again was founded in 1851 at Reconbeau (Drôme) by Madame la Baronne de Mont-Roud, assisted by l'Abbé Née. This Community while devoting itself to various works of charity has for its chief object the conducting of evening classes for country girls.

In Belgium, at Anvers, the Congregation of "Servants of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary" was formed out of the Institute of St. Francis Xavier, founded by Mlles. Wilhelmine Telyhuyes and Hortense Pieraerts for the protection of girls. The Congregation has choir and lay Sisters, and devotes itself chiefly to the care of the young and of the poor.

Inability to provide these is not an obstacle to admission provided the Candidate be truly worthy, and likely to become a useful member.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted between the ages of sixteen and thirty.

Preparatory training :—

Candidates can be accepted for a preparatory course of studies to fit them for teaching or nursing. In this case their ages should be from fifteen to eighteen, and they are considered as lay students who have the intention of entering the Noviciate.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates should furnish (*a*) Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation ; (*b*) A medical Certificate ; (*c*) A recommendation from the spiritual director or parish priest attesting an irreproachable reputation.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate extends over two years from the time of Clothing. Novices, after profession, remain a whole year in the Noviciate and assist at all the exercises, and spiritual instructions.

The Congregation has but one class of

Sisters, it has no Lay Sisters or Coadjutrixes.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates after six months' postulancy are admitted to Clothing ; after two full years' Noviciate, to the profession of annual vows, which they renew annually for five years at least, then at the end of this period they take perpetual vows.

The Sisters' habit is of black woollen serge with large sleeves and a scapular of the same material. The wimple and binder are of white linen over which they wear a black veil.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Mother House, 59 Avenue de Paris, Versailles, France.

Noviciate for England: The Convent, Hassett Road, Homerton, London, N.E.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has numerous Establishments in France and Belgium.

In England: The Convent, 8 Gloucester Road, Regent's Park, London, N.W.—Home for domestics and business girls while awaiting situations.

Workroom for young needlewomen, under the care of the Sisters, at 29 Alfred Place, South Kensington, W.

French Convalescent Home, de Courcel Road, Kemp Town, Brighton; also the French Hospital, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.

Sisters have recently established a foundation at Wombat, New South Wales, Australia—Primary School and the care of the sick.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother Provincial, The Convent, Hassett Road, Homerton, London, N.E.

Servite Nuns*

(Enclosed discalced Nuns of the Second Order of Servites)

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Object of the Order :—

The Second Order of Servites is purely contemplative, the Religious devoting themselves solely to a life of prayer by the solemn celebration of the Divine Office.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health is required without hereditary defect either of mind or body; also respectable origin, aptitude for choir, ability to do light work, needlework, etc., and a real vocation, *i. e.* a firm will to apply themselves in earnest to the requirements of the Religious life. Lay Sisters must have robust health and good will for any hard work.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Choir Nuns are expected to have a dowry of £1000, or a perpetual annuity of £40, and

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* As our Blessed Lady herself is the Foundress of the Order, she herself pointed out to the Seven Holy Fathers chosen by her the object of it, *i. e.* to spread devotion to her Sorrows along with devotion to the Sacred Passion.

The Second Order, *i. e.* the discalced Nuns, do their part in offering up their seclusion and prayers, mental and vocal, for this purpose day and night (having day and night choir).

The Seven Holy Founders were canonized by Pope Leo XIII in the year 1888. See also "Servite Nuns, Mantellate."

that according to the Rule and episcopal decrees.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen to twenty-eight years of age. Exceptions must have the dispensation of the local Bishop.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates must bring Certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and health, and the recommendation of a priest. Converts are received only under very exceptional circumstances ; they need to have persevered a certain length of time in their new state and to bring exceptionally good and reliable recommendations.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

Candidates have to be postulants for one full year, followed by a canonical year of Noviciate. At the end of these two years according to the later decisions of the Holy See temporary vows are taken for three years, after that time they proceed to perpetual vows.

The Nuns are strictly enclosed, discalced and wear sandals. Their habit, very much like the Benedictine habit, is black. They wear a black short mantle, black scapular and black veil. Lay Sisters have the same habit but their veil is white.

The Order is an offshoot of the Order of the Servite Fathers founded in 1233 and approved of by Alexander IV in 1255. In 1619 Blessed Benedicta di Rossi reconstituted the Convent of Nuns, which had been existing from the beginning, under the name of Servite Hermitesses, and under the more austere Rule of the hermit Servite Fathers on Monte Senario.

The Convent she founded at Venice is still existing. From Venice the present foundations at Munich and Arco were made. From the latter a colony came to England and made a foundation at South Bersted in 1888, which is at present (1912) their only Convent in this country.

The Convents are independent of each other, and they are governed by a Prioress or Abbess, who has the usual insignia of ring, stole and crozier.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : The Mother Prioress, Servite Convent, South Bersted, Bognor.

Germany : München, Herzogspitalkirche.

Servite Nuns (Mantellate) *

(Nuns of the Third Order of Servites)

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Object of the Order :—

The chief objects of the Order may be summed up thus :—(*a*) to compassionate the Sufferings of Jesus and the Sorrows of Mary by constant devotion and self-immolation; (*b*) to undertake all works of charity and zeal such as the education of the young, care of orphanages, the visitation of the sick poor, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

To have good health without deformity, and to be of legitimate birth is requisite.

Austerity is one of the notes of the Order; the Nuns fast every Friday and on the Vigils of the principal feasts, and are allowed only seven hours for sleep.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

For Choir Nuns a pension and outfit is

* The Order of Servite Fathers, also called Servites of Mary, founded in 1233 by seven wealthy Florentine merchants, is divided into: the First Order, composed of men; the Second Order, who are the cloistered discalced Nuns; and the Third Order (Tertiaries), also known as Mantellate on account of their large black mantle which goes from head to foot, and also in contradistinction to the Second Order. See "Servite Nuns."

They were founded towards the end of the thirteenth century at Florence by St. Philip Benizi and Juliana Falconieri. The Rule is that of St. Augustine, and their Constitutions were approved of by Pope Martin V. In 1850 the Community then at Cuves (France) came to England.

required during their Noviciate and a small dowry or annuity at their profession.

For Lay Sisters £5 for expenses of Clothing.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates seeking admission must not be over thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

Postulants should have sufficient capabilities to be of some use in the different works undertaken by the Order.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation. Also two references, one clerical and the other secular, must be produced.

Time of Noviciate :—

The term for both Choir Nun and Lay Sister is six months' postulantship, and one year in white veil.

Choir Nuns take temporary vows for six years, followed by profession for life.

Lay Sisters take temporary vows, renewed every three years till the twelfth year from the time of their admission to the habit, when they make their profession for life.

The habit and scapular are black, the wimple is of white pleated linen over which is worn a black veil. The veil is lined with white and shows a white border.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

England: St. Mary's Priory, St. Anne's Road, Stamford Hill, London.

The English province has houses in France, Austria and America.

The Order has many houses in other countries, especially in Italy and Germany, where it is in a very flourishing condition.

Establishments :—

English Province: London (four), Arundel, Dorking, Stratton-on-the-Fosse, Downside, and Everingham, Yorks.

Gratzen, Bohemia; Avenue Foestraat, Uccle, Brussels; Mt. Vernon, Indiana, U.S.A.; Enfield and Ridgeway, Illinois, U.S.A.; East St. Louis, U.S.A.; Salix Iowa and Cherokee Iowa, U.S.A.

For others, see Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Prioress, St. Mary's Priory, St. Ann's Road, Stamford Hill, London, N.

Sisters of Saint Benedict*
(Foreign Missionary Society)

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Object of the Congregation :—

The members of this Congregation devote themselves exclusively to Missionary work. In addition to their own sanctification by the observance of the Religious life, the Sisters help to extend the Catholic Faith by the instruction and Christian education of women and children in pagan and infidel countries.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be good and reliable, likely to be able to stand the hardships of tropical climates. Freedom from all hereditary and other disease is absolutely necessary.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a sum of £20 payable at the time of admission, Candidates are expected to pay an annual pension of £20 during the first two years of probation. Exceptions may be made in special cases provided a subject is otherwise well recommended.

* The Congregation of St. Benedict's Missionary Sisters is the women's branch of the renowned society of Missionary Fathers of the same title, which has its Mother House at St. Ottilie near Munich, founded in 1884 in Bavaria by the saintly Father Andrew Amrhein, a religious of the Order of St. Benedict. See *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted between the ages of eighteen and twenty-six; above that age by exception and by dispensation. Young girls and those showing talent will be trained for Mission Teachers.

Preparatory training :—

A good elementary education is required, and possibly musical aptitude for Church services. Knowledge of foreign languages, or at least, facility in acquiring them, though not necessary, is desirable.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism, Confirmation and health (a doctor's certificate) are required. Also references from the clergy of the parish, and, if the Candidate is a minor, a written consent from her parents or guardians.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

The term is : two years' postulation and one year's Noviciate.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has, besides those of a preparatory kind in Bavaria, many Establishments in Africa, Brazil and the Philippines.

The Mother House is at : Tutzing, Oberbayern (Germany), (Kloster der St. Benediktus-Missionschwestern), whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament *

(Convents of Perpetual Adoration)

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Object of the Order :—

The Order is contemplative and its chief object is Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It is the first Order founded of its kind to be approved.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Ordinary good health is requisite for carrying out the duties of the Rule and the night watching before the Blessed Sacrament.

Any known hereditary taint would be a disqualification.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

All Choir Nuns are expected to bring a sufficient or moderate dowry.

Lay Sisters are received without.

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* The Order was founded by the Venerable Abbé Antoine Lequien, a Dominican, in the year 1639. The first Establishment (the Mother House) was started at Marseilles (France), and on account of great difficulties it was not until the year 1659 that the Constitutions of the Congregation were approved of. In 1693 Pope Innocent XII raised the Congregation to the rank of an Order having solemn perpetual vows and enclosure.

The first filiation from the Mother House was established at Bollène in 1725. Thirteen nuns belonging to its Community received the crown of martyrdom in the French Revolution in 1794. From the house at Bollène the English foundation was made in 1863 at Cannington, whence they removed within a few years to Taunton, their present and only Convent in England.

Age of Candidates :—

The Order has no fixed age for admission, but from twenty to thirty is considered best to begin the Religious course.

Older people and widows are admissible if properly qualified.

Certificates and References required :—

Baptismal and Confirmation Certificates are required; also references from ecclesiastics to whom the Candidate is well known, or from Convents where she may have been brought up.

Time of Noviciate :—

Eighteen months from entrance to profession (which can be prolonged if circumstances need it), and five years after, profession for both Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters alike.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

Clothing takes place six months from the time of entrance, and the profession one full year after.

A longer period of some years before final profession is given to the Outdoor Sisters (Tourières).

The Nuns' habit is of black serge with a white scapular, veil and cloak.

Future Employment :—

The Object of the Order—Contemplative and Community Life, with the observance of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Establishments :—

The Order has Convents in almost every country, and in some of their houses abroad they educate young ladies.

Each Convent is separate and independent, and has its own Noviciate.

See Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Convent of Perpetual Adoration, Park Street, Taunton.

Sisters of St. Catharine, V.M.*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation has for its primary object the care and teaching of youth. In the course of time they have been able to add the nursing of the sick both privately and in hospitals, the charge of homes for old people, the care of orphanages and of the poor.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Only healthy Candidates may apply for admittance. They must also be determined to devote their lives, talent and energies to the service of God and their neighbour in the Community.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

At least £45 is required as a dowry.
A dispensation from the Holy See is required

* The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Catharine V.M. was founded by Mother Regina Prothmann in the year 1571 at Braunsberg, East Prussia, where the Mother House and Noviciate still is.
The teaching Congregation soon spread over the whole Diocese of Ermland, and the Sisters were engaged in teaching in almost every town within the Diocese until 1878, when their schools were all confiscated by the Prussian Government.
Thanks to the protectorate of Cardinal Krementz of Cologne and of the Empress Augusta, the Congregation was not swept away by the lamentable Kulturkampf. From this epoch they have been chiefly engaged in Germany in nursing and in the care of homes and orphanages. At the invitation of the Bishop of Liverpool, Right Rev. Dr. Whiteside, a batch of Sisters first left their native Diocese in 1896 to take care of Polish emigrants in Liverpool.

in cases where postulants are too poor to bring anything or can only offer sums less than the above.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are accepted from sixteen to thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

No special training or studies are of obligation before entering. Candidates not having had any training will receive such training as will fit them for the various works carried on by the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Health, Baptism and Confirmation ; references from the clergy, former employer or Institute are also required.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Postulants prepare during six months for Clothing. On receiving the habit they enter the Noviciate, which lasts two years. The Noviciate is followed by profession and the taking of perpetual vows.

The Congregation has only one class of Sisters. There are no Lay Sisters. They wear a black habit and veil.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Convent of St. Catharine (Katharinen-Kloster) Braunsberg O/Pr., Germany.

Other Establishments :—

Besides their numerous Houses in Germany the Congregation opened some ten years ago a Convent in Brazil where they have now several Schools, Hospitals and Orphanages.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Convent of St. Catharine, 50 Eldon Place, Liverpool.

Or to the Mother House mentioned above.

Sisters of Charity (Irish) *

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Object of the Order :—

The chief object of the Irish Sisters of Charity is the visitation and relief of the sick poor, the conducting of poor schools, industrial schools and orphanages, the care of hospitals, asylums, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be sufficiently good to support the Community life. Candidates must also be capable and well disposed to render service to the Congregation and willing to be sent and employed anywhere.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Candidates are expected to bring a good outfit and sufficient money to defray the

* The Congregation was founded in 1815 by Mary Frances Aikenhead, assisted by Most Rev. Dr. Murray, Archbishop of Dublin. An Establishment was first opened in North William Street, Dublin, with the object of supplying a want which the enclosed Orders could not supply, namely, the visitation of the sick poor, the care of schools, hospitals, asylums, etc.

The Constitutions are those of St. Ignatius adapted to suit the various undertakings of the Congregation. They were approved of by Pope Gregory XVI in 1834.

The Congregation grew rapidly in Ireland, where it numbers at present over thirty houses, with a large woollen mill in the West and a stocking factory in Co. Mayo.

In 1890 the Congregation first came to England and took charge of a Rescue Home at Rock Ferry. Some sixty years ago the foundress sent a batch of Sisters to Australia, where the Congregation has now about a dozen houses and a flourishing hospital.

probation and Clothing expenses. Choir Sisters should also have a dowry or something equivalent, such as Certificates for teaching, nursing, etc.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are accepted from eighteen upwards.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Sisters a good education is requisite; for Lay Sisters nothing out of the ordinary.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation; references and testimonials from the clergy, Institute, or any other reliable authority.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term of postulancy extends over six months and is followed by the Clothing. The Noviciate lasts two years. All Novices are trained at the one Noviciate, Harold's Cross, Dublin. At the end of the Noviciate simple vows are taken, temporary at first, followed by perpetual profession. Choir Sisters add to the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience a fourth, namely to devote their lives to the service of the poor.

The habit is a plain black dress with a wimple of the same colour and material.

The Sisters wear a white linen collar and a white cap covered by a black veil. In church they wear over their habit a long black cloak of light material.

The Lay Sisters' habit is similar, but they wear a white linen veil.

Establishments :—

The Noviciate and Mother House are at Harold's Cross, with several filiations in or near Dublin. They have also Convents, Schools, Magdalene Asylums, Blind Asylums, Hospitals, etc., in towns such as Cork, Waterford, Benada Abbey, Clonmel, Clarenbridge, Kilkenny, Tramore, etc.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General, Harold's Cross, near Dublin.

Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The objects are : Personal sanctification and salvation and all works of mercy and the instruction of girls of all classes of society.

Health and respective qualifications :—

A solid vocation, good health, a good disposition, a good education, or at least a fair amount of knowledge combined with intelligence and sound judgment are required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission—

An outfit is required and a reasonable dowry in most cases. Where a postulant has useful diplomas for teaching or nursing,

* The Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary were founded in 1803 by the Very Rev. Canon Triest—surnamed the St. Vincent de Paul of Belgium—founder also of the "Brothers of St. John of God" (see Vol. I).

The Mother House and Noviciate of the Congregation is at Ghent in Belgium, and the Sisters are known as the Sisters of Charity of Ghent, or the White Sisters of Charity. St. Vincent de Paul is their Patron for the active life, and St. Bernard for the contemplative. They wear the white habit of St. Bernard, and have many of the Constitutions of the Cistercian Order. The spirit of the Congregation is pre-eminently a spirit of charity and devotedness. The education of girls in day and boarding schools, in training colleges and orphanages ; the care of the sick and the incurable in hospitals and asylums ; the teaching of the deaf and dumb and the blind, and every kind of missionary work are undertaken by the Congregation. Heaven has blessed its growth so much that it has become one of the largest Congregations in Belgium ; and now on the eve of its first centenary 1200 Sisters are actively employed in these various works of mercy in England, Belgium, Ceylon, India, and Africa (the Congo).

the Superiors are generally willing to waive the question of dowry when it would be difficult to supply it.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are accepted between the ages of eighteen and thirty.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation ; a medical certificate of sound health and satisfactory reference from the clergy or other reliable authority.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Postulants usually spend three or four months in the Noviciate before receiving the habit.

After one year's Noviciate, temporary vows are made for four years. The final vows are only made after a five years' Noviciate.

The Congregation has no Lay Sisters.

The habit is of white woollen material with a black scapular and veil. The guimpe is of white linen, and the choir mantle of white serge.

Novices wear a white scapular and a white veil.

Future Employment :—

The Sisters are employed in all kinds of

charitable works, or in teaching. All take part in domestic duties. Those who volunteer for the Foreign Missions may be sent there at any time.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

54 Rue des Meuniers, Gand, Belgium.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has several excellent Institutions in Belgium. At the request of the Belgian Government a first batch of Sisters went to the Congo Missions in 1889, where they have now several flourishing Institutions. In India (Ceylon and the Punjaub) they opened three boarding schools in 1895.

At the invitation of the late Cardinal Vaughan the Sisters came to England in 1888 and founded at Tottington, Manchester, a large Convent to which is attached a flourishing boarding school and orphanage.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House as above ; or to Holly Mount Convent, Tottington, Nr. Bury, Lancashire.

Sisters of Charity of Our Lady Mother of Mercy

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Object of the Congregation:—

The Congregation combines the contemplative with the active life. In this country they are chiefly devoted to the education and training of children of all classes and ages. They have also poor schools, orphanages, large Institutions for the aged poor of both sexes, hospitals for invalids, and near Paramaribo in Dutch Guiana they heroically tend the lepers on an island.

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* The Congregation was founded in the year 1832 by the Most Rev. J. Zwijsen, Archbishop of Utrecht (Holland), aided by Mary M. Leijsen. It spread and grew so rapidly that there are at present as many as 100 houses, mostly in Holland and Belgium, subordinated to the Mother House at Tilburg, North Holland. In 1872 a batch of Sisters crossed the Ocean and made their first foundation at Baltic, Connecticut, U.S.A., where the Sisters conduct at present an academy for young ladies. They have similar Establishments at Willimantic and Taftville.

The Congregation has at present confided to their care over 55,000 children, for the excellent education and training of which they have earned a high reputation. The Community also takes care of over 3500 aged and infirm people. The Rules and Constitutions of the Congregation were approved of and confirmed by Gregory XVI and Pius IX in 1843 and 1848 respectively. The Congregation numbers at present (1912) some 3000 Religious.

A Congregation on the model of the above with similar objects, called "*Sisters of Charity*," was founded in the year 1854 at St. John, New Brunswick, U.S.A, by Bishop Connolly aided by Mother Mary Vincent (*née* Conway) The Congregation has now several schools, middle and high, orphanages, homes for the aged poor, etc., in that Diocese. The Mother House and Noviciate are at St. John, New Brunswick, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must have good health, be free from hereditary disease and notable deformity. A sound judgment, a sociable character, and a strong determination to devote their lives to the service of God and to their neighbour, is also required.

Pecuniary means required :—

In addition to a good and suitable outfit, postulants are expected to bring a dowry of £50 as the Noviciate pension, with an additional £10 to defray the cost of outfit, etc., at profession. Useful qualifications for teaching, nursing, etc., will be taken into consideration.

Age of Candidates :—

The best age to apply for admission is between eighteen and twenty-five. Candidates above that age require special consideration.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of parents' marriage, Baptism and Confirmation; references from the spiritual director, Institute of training, or any other duly qualified person.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a postulancy extending over some

months, a year's Noviciate is entered upon. At the end of that time simple vows are taken. Perpetual vows are made at the end of the fourth year from the date of entrance.

The Congregation has but one class of Sisters; there are no Lay Sisters.

The habit is of black serge. A white linen wimple and cap covered with a black veil complete the Religious habit.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate:—

The Mother House and Noviciate are at Tilburg, North Holland. English postulants generally make their Noviciate at Pantasaph, Holywell, North Wales.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has a large number of establishments on the Continent. In Holland and Belgium alone they have some ninety houses. They have three establishments in England: Pantasaph, Preston, and Newnham Paddox, Warwickshire. In America they have four houses, in the East Indies two, and one in Dutch Guiana.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House (see above), or:

The Mother Superior, St. Clare's Convent, Pantasaph, Holywell, North Wales.

Sisters of Charity of St. Louis *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The objects are: the sanctification and salvation of its own members by prayer and mortification, and the education of youth, chiefly of poor girls, as designed by the zealous foundresses.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health, a sound judgment and a strong desire to acquire perfection is required. Candidates should also be determined to devote themselves to the service of God and their neighbour, especially in teaching.

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* The Congregation was founded by Mesdames D. Malesherbes, widow of the defender of Louis XVI, and De Molé, her daughter, who on account of the persecutions left Paris in 1803 and took up their residence at Vannes, Brittany, where they permanently founded the Congregation with the view of carrying on the works of charity of the Religious Orders then suppressed, and chiefly that of educating the young. The Holy See finally approved the Congregation in 1840. At the time of the recent persecution and confiscation of Convents the Congregation counted twenty-five houses with orphanages, middle and upper class schools, etc., in France, mostly in Brittany. But owing to the French persecution the greater number of the Community emigrated to Canada, where they have now (1912) fifteen houses, with schools, orphanages, etc. They came to England about the year 1898, and opened a Convent with an Orphanage at Minehead.

A Congregation called "*Sisters of St. Louis*," and said to have been founded at Tuilly (Paris) by the Abbé Bautain and Mme. la Baronne de Vaux in 1839-40, has Convents with schools attached, industrial and boarding schools for middle and upper classes in Ramsgrange, Co. Wexford; Monaghan; Carrickmacross; Clones; Bundoran, Co. Donegal; Middletown, Co. Armagh.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Postulants should be provided with a good and suitable outfit. A small dowry is also required, especially in the case of a Choir Sister, who, unless qualified for teaching, should be able to defray, in part at least, the training expenses.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen years upwards.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Sisters a good education is required, and sufficient ability to acquire the knowledge necessary for teaching.

For Lay Sisters a thorough knowledge of the Catholic Faith and ability for domestic work is sufficient.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. References bearing upon the Candidate's vocation, character, etc.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

For both classes, Choir and Lay Sisters, a postulancy of at least some months' duration is given. This is followed by two years' Noviciate, at the end of which Choir Sisters take temporary vows renewed annually with a vow of stability.

At the beginning the Congregation had no Lay Sisters, but, as their want was felt, the so-called "Oblates of St. Louis" were instituted about the year 1814. The latter make a *promise* of stability at the end of the Noviciate for ten years. After that time they may take the Religious vows, and after their fortieth year of age also the vow of stability.

The habit of a Choir Sister is black with a black apron, a large white linen guimpe, a white binder and under-veil. Lay Sisters "Oblates" wear instead of a black veil a large white linen "coif" and binder.

Establishments :—

England : The Sisters of Charity of St. Louis have Houses at : Glastonbury (The Priory, Magdalen Street), Frome, and Minehead.

Others : see American Catholic Directories.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior of any of above Houses.

Sisters of Charity of St. Paul *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The original object of the Congregation was almost exclusively the education and care of youth. In the course of time they were able to add the visiting and relieving of the sick poor, the care of hospitals, orphanages, asylums, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must have sufficient health to support the Community life, and also aptitude to render service either in teaching or in other useful work.

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* This excellent Congregation was first founded at Seveville-la-Chenard (France) at the latter end of the seventeenth century. It made its humble beginning in a semi-cellar transformed into a schoolroom for the poor children of the country parish. At the request of the Bishop of Chartres they removed into that city in 1708 and took possession of the ancient Convent of St. Maurice, which became the Mother House.

After the great Revolution, so disastrous to all Religious Institutes, the remaining Religious of St. Paul rallied once more under the roof of the ancient monastery of Jacobines at Chartres—hence surnamed "Jacobines"—and from that epoch the Congregation grew rapidly; it soon spread over various countries and became the parent tree of a few Institutions of a similar title and object.

At the invitation of Dr. Wiseman (later Cardinal) they first came to England and made a foundation, which has become an independent branch, at Banbury, whence they transferred the centre and Mother House in 1864 to larger premises they had purchased at Selly Park, near Birmingham, giving it the name of St. Paul's.

At the dawn of the present French persecution the Congregation counted in France about 260 Establishments with schools and charitable Institutions of various kinds, several houses in the French West Indies, in Hong-Kong, Shanghai and Saigon in Cochin China.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A trousseau and also a small dowry is required, especially in the case of a Candidate not having had any previous training.

Age of Candidates :—

Unless in very special cases, Candidates are only admitted from eighteen up to thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

Although not obligatory, yet it is very desirable that Candidates should be well educated and show talents for study and teaching.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of parents' Marriage, Baptism and Confirmation. References from the clergy, former employer or Institute.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a postulancy from six to nine months, the postulant is clothed and enters upon a year's Noviciate, at the end of which simple temporary vows are taken. The vows are renewed annually for three successive years, at the end of that time perpetual simple vows are taken.

The Congregation has no Lay Sisters.

The habit and veil are black. A white linen wimple and binder complete the Sisters' dress.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

St. Paul's Convent, Selly Park, near Birmingham.

The English branch, like that in Alsace (Germany), is independent and under the government of the Mother General, and the Convents are under the authority of the Bishop of the Diocese.

Establishments ;—

The Sisters of Charity of St. Paul have over fifty Establishments in England, to nearly all of which there is attached either one or more parochial schools, a boarding school or an orphanage. They teach over 15,000 children in England alone.

For Application or further information apply to ;—

England : Mother General, St. Paul's Convent, Selly Park, Birmingham.

For addresses see *Catholic Directory* respectively.

Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul *

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Object of the Congregation :—

Originally the Congregation devoted itself

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* Space does not allow us to give more than the briefest sketch of even this, the most popular and the largest in point of numbers of all Religious Congregations in the Catholic Church.

The Congregation derives its name from its principal founder, St. Vincent de Paul, of whom some twenty-five well known biographies, not to speak of minor sketches, have been written in various languages.

Founded in Paris in the year 1634 by St. Vincent de Paul and Mme. Louise Le Gras (*née* de Mérillac), out of the Confraternity of Charity formed by the Saint some seventeen years previous for the relief and active work among the poor and sick. He did not give it written Rules and Constitutions until 1655, when the Congregation had taken form and life from practice. The new Congregation spread and grew with marvellous rapidity. The care of foundlings and the charge of hospitals was added to their work at an early date. And the Congregation has now orphanages, asylums for the blind and the deaf and dumb, homes for the aged poor, hospitals, dispensaries, industrial and day schools, etc., in all parts of the globe from the Eastern extremity of Asia to the far Western regions of America. On the battlefield and in camp these Sisters have readily taken their position to tend the sick and wounded, to aid the dying, to sacrifice their lives if necessary.

Nothing could describe this Society better than the few words of the holy Founder saying : "Their Chapel is the parish Church, their Cloister the streets of the city or the wards of the Hospital, their enclosure obedience, their grating the fear of God, and their veil holy modesty."

The Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul first came to these islands in 1855, when a batch of five made a foundation at Drogheda, Ireland. In 1857 they opened a Convent at Dublin, and the first one in England at Sheffield. To-day the Congregation numbers some 25,000 members, unselfishly devoted to works of charity in the various parts of the world.

An offshoot of this renowned Congregation, organized in America, is the "Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth," founded at Newark in 1859 by Sister Mary Xavier Mehegan, a late member of the Community of St. Vincent de Paul at New York. The new Community, which devotes itself chiefly to teaching, retained

almost exclusively to the visitation of the sick and poor. In the course of time, to meet requirements, they have added to their original work the care of hospitals, asylums, orphanages, homes for aged poor, the charge of foundlings, industrial and day schools, dispensaries, etc., etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health, freedom from hereditary disease and from notable deformity is required. Candidates must also have a sound judgment and be determined to devote themselves wholly and exclusively to the service of God and their neighbour as their superiors may direct.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry or annuity is not strictly required for admission provided the Candidate is well recommended for her vocation, piety, etc., and gives indications of becoming a useful member of the Congregation. They should, however, be provided with a good outfit and be able, if required, to defray the expenses of probation time.

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both the habit and the Constitutions of the Mother House until 1874, when in contradistinction a white cap with a black veil was adopted. The Institute, which numbers at present (1912) about 1100 Religious, with branch houses in the Dioceses of Boston, Hartford, Newark, New York and Trenton, directs one College, six Academies, several Orphanages, Hospitals, Homes, etc., and has charge of about seventy parochial schools. The Mother House is at Convent Station, Morristown, New Jersey, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen years upwards. Widows free from all earthly ties and obligations may also be admitted.

Preparatory training :—

Nothing special is required beyond a good education and sufficient intelligence to be able to acquire what is necessary to render service to the Community.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation are required. References from the clergy, employer or Institute of training must also be given.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a postulancy of some months' duration, the Noviciate, called Seminary, is entered upon and no vows are taken until after about five years. English postulants pass the first six months of noviceship at Mill Hill, London. Then they proceed to the Mother House, Rue du Bac, Paris, for about a year, exclusively devoted to spiritual exercises and the studying of the Rules and Constitutions. (There are also Noviciates at Turin, Mexico and Emmettsburg, Maryland, for postulants of these countries respectively.) They then receive the habit and enter upon active work at some branch

house. In due time they are admitted to temporary simple vows, annually renewable on the feast of the Annunciation. The Sisters retain their surnames and add the name of a Saint by which they are known in Religion.

The Sisters, of whom there is only one class, rise at four o'clock all the year round and go to bed at nine. Every house in the World and the Provinces respectively are subject to the Mother House and the Mother General at Paris.

The Sisters' habit is of plain dark grey with large sleeves. They wear no scapulars as part of their habit. By their white linen wimple and large *cornette*, they have become familiar and known to every nation.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Sœurs de Charité de Saint Vincent de Paul, 140 Rue du Bac, Paris. For Addresses of Establishments, of which there are large numbers, see Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House, Paris ; in England, St. Vincent's Convent, Mill Hill, London, N.W., or Mother Superior of any branch house.

Sisters of Christian Charity*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation has for its chief object—in addition to self-sanctification—the training and education of youth ; missionary work and all works of charity that tend to the glorification of God and the salvation of one's neighbour.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health, to support the Community life and enable Candidates to be useful members, is required. Candidates must be well recommended for their respectability and Religious vocation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry varies according to circumstances, and special qualifications either for teaching or for some other useful work are sometimes accepted as a substitute. Young and talented Candidates will be trained to qualify for teachers.

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* Pauline von Mallinckrodt, who became the first Superior General, founded the Congregation at Paderborn in 1849. The fateful Kulturkampf in Germany caused the Sisters to emigrate in large numbers to America, where they have at present many and successful Establishments both in the North and in the South.

The *Lauda* was received from the Holy See in 1859, three years from the time of its foundation, and the Congregation was definitely approved in 1888.

Age of Candidates :—

By Rule postulants are accepted from sixteen to twenty-five years of age; above that age a special dispensation is required.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation must be produced; references bearing upon character, vocation, training, etc., from the clergy by preference.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are probationers (postulants) for a term of six months. This is followed by the Clothing and a two years' Noviciate. The vows are simple and temporal, renewed annually for the first seven years in succession. At the end of that time they are made perpetual.

In addition to the three vows of Religion, the Sisters make the solemn promise of stability.

The Sisters' habit is black and simple.

Postal Address of General Mother House :—

Kloster, Warburger Strasse 2, Paderborn, Germany.

American Mother House: Mallinckrodt Convent, 176 S. Meade St., Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has Establishments in Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Austria and America. They have the charge of a large number of Parochial schools, and conduct Orphanages, Asylums, Industrial schools, etc. See Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The above Mother Houses respectively.

Sisters of Christian Education *

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Object of the Institute :—

In addition to self-sanctification and salvation, common to all Religious Congregations, the Institute has for its chief object the Christian Education of youth. Choir Sisters say the Office of B.V.M. daily in choir, while the Lay Sisters substitute for this other prayers.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must have health good enough to support the Community life and enable them to become useful members of the Institute. In the case of a Choir Sister they should also either be qualified or be talented enough to acquire the necessary knowledge for a teaching or other equivalent position.

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* The Institute of Christian Education was founded in the year 1817 by l'Abbé Louis Lafosse, parish priest of Échauffour, Orne, France. On account of the deplorable Revolution youth had suffered severely in Christian education, and in order to meet the local requirements the holy founder instructed and trained in the Religious life, with a view of securing future teachers, a few pious and talented girls of his parish. The ensuing growth and prosperity of the undertaking tells of heaven's blessing. Branch houses were opened at Argentan in 1818 ; at Gracé 1823 ; Regmalard 1826 ; Falaise 1835 ; Flers 1837 ; Loos-lez-Lille 1843 ; Tinchebrai 1856 ; Fournes 1857 ; Rouen 1891. Argentan became the Mother House in 1848. They made their first foundation in England at Farnborough, Hants, in 1889.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Besides a good and suitable outfit, a dowry is required, the amount of which is fixed by the Mother General of the Institute. Family circumstances and acquired qualifications will be taken into consideration.

Age of Candidates :—

The best age to apply for admission is from seventeen to twenty-seven. Elderly Candidates require a special dispensation.

Certificates and References required :—

Postulants must bring Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation; also references from the parish priest, spiritual director or Institute, as the case may be.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

A postulancy of some months is followed by the Clothing and a two sometimes three, years' Noviciate. At the end of the Noviciate profession takes place, and simple vows are taken. The vows are renewed annually for five years, and at the end of that time perpetual vows are made.

The habit is of black serge. Choir Sisters wear a black cape, Lay Sisters a shawl.

The Sisters wear no guimpe or veil, but a white muslin cap instead. When they are out-of-doors, they wear a long black cloak with a hood covering the white cap.

The Rule is that of St. Augustine, with Constitutions to suit the purpose of the Institute.

Establishments :—

The Institute of Christian Education has at present two Convents in these Islands, one at Farnborough, Hants, and one at Salisbury with a High School for girls.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superior, Convent of Christian Education, Farnborough, Hants.

Sisters of Christian Schools *

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Object of the Institute :—

The Institute of Christian Schools is a Religious Congregation whose members devote themselves to the Christian education of the young, especially of the poor. Their Establishments comprise elementary and secondary schools, colleges, orphanages, etc. The Sisters also undertake the care of hospitals and the visitation of the sick in their own homes.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health and the qualities necessary for teaching, nursing or other useful employment is requisite for admission.

Pecuniary means required :—

As a rule a dowry is required in addition to a good and suitable outfit. Candidates

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* The Institute claims as founder Mère Marie Madeleine (*née* Julie Postel), who was declared Venerable in 1897. Educated at the Benedictine Convent at Valognes, she opened first a boarding school for orphans at Barfleur, her native place. Owing to the fatal French Revolution it was not until 1802 that a foundation was made at Cherbourg, where she opened a poor school.

The young Institute did not escape its own vicissitudes and trials, which, however, did but strengthen and add to its growth in due season. At the dawn of the recent deplorable Religious persecution in France the Institute numbered some 1500 members and had charge of more than 160 schools of all grades and classes.

In England they have Convents at Reading, Broad-Oak, Berkshire ; Moseley, Birmingham.

without means but well recommended for their vocation, training, intellectual and moral qualities, may obtain admission without a dowry.

Age of Candidates :—

Those who aspire to be teachers and who have not been trained for such should be young and talented enough to acquire the necessary knowledge. The most suitable age is from sixteen to twenty-five. Certificated Candidates may be older.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and health are required. Also testimonials of previous training, if any, and good references from the parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate extends over two years and is preceded by a postulancy of some months. Postulants are clothed upon entering the Noviciate. At the end of the Noviciate the Candidate may take simple vows for three years. If the age of twenty-five is reached at the end of five years' Community life, perpetual vows may be taken.

The Sisters' habit is of black serge. A

white wimple, square in shape, a white binder and an under-veil covered with a black veil complete the costume.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior, St. Joseph's Convent, Broad Oak, Reading,

Sisters of the Christian Retreat *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation of Sisters of Christian Retreat has for its object the sanctification of its members by retirement from the world; by works of zeal; chiefly the education of youth, primary and secondary spiritual Retreats; and by works of penance.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health, education and ability of Candidates must be such as will enable them to carry on the works of the Institute, according as obedience may direct.

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* The Congregation of Sisters of the Christian Retreat was founded in the year 1787 at the dawn of the French Revolution by the Venerable Silvestre Antoine Receveur, parish priest of Fontenelles (France). The holy founder was convinced of the efficacy of spiritual Retreats for lay people, for whose benefit he opened two large Establishments in 1789. In addition to the Retreat work the Congregation devoted itself also to giving gratuitous education to the children of the poor.

It was not until 1792 at the very eve of the Revolution that a Religious habit was adopted without the imposition of any vows, but a revolutionary mob drove both the Sisters and the founder into exile for ten years. In the year 1802, the Sisters having re-united and the holy founder returned from his exile in Switzerland, four foundations were made, two at Aix and two at Marseilles.

A male branch of the Congregation with the same title and object was founded at an early date, and one of the new houses at Aix was destined for the education of young ecclesiastics for the Society.

The Congregation of Sisters has now some twenty Houses in various countries with upwards of 1000 members.

Pope Pius IX approved the Congregation in the year 1860.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A pension of £12 a year is required during the time of Noviciate. Candidates well recommended for their vocation, abilities or training, but unable to pay the pension, may be received without a dowry.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from fifteen to twenty-five years of age.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates must produce (*a*) Certificates of Birth, Baptism, and Confirmation ; (*b*) A reference from the clergy ; (*c*) A Medical Certificate of health.

Time of Noviciate :—

The term is two years : one year as postulant, and one as novice. There is no distinction among the Sisters as to Choir or Lay Sisters.

Time of Clothing and Profession :—

The Clothing takes place after the year of postulantship, and profession is made at the end of the year of noviceship.

The habit is of white serge with a cape and scapular of the same material. They wear no veil or guimpe, but a white linen band across the forehead and a cap of the same material as the habit. When out-of-doors

they wear a black habit and a long black cloak.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Maison de la Retraite, Féluy-Arguennes, Hainault, Belgium.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation of Sisters of the Christian Retreat has a number of Convents in Belgium, France and Switzerland.

In England they have Convents at Clapham, Hammersmith (London), Redhill (Surrey), Broadstairs, Rugeley, Cannock, and Chorlton-cum-Hardy (Manchester).

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House, as above.

England : Mother Superior, The Convent, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus *

(Called "Dames de St. Maur")

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus devote

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* The Congregation was founded in France (Rouen) by Abbé Nicolas Barré, a Religious of the Order of Minims.*

Touched by the deplorable neglect of the Christian Education of youth, Father Barré rallied and trained with the view of eventually becoming school mistresses, several pious ladies, willing to devote their energies and lives, without taking any Religious vows, to the Christian Education of young people of their own sex. The first gratuitous school, chiefly for the poor, was opened at Rouen in 1666, followed by several others. In 1678 a college for the training and formation of Religious Mistresses was opened at Paris ; the Mother House was founded in the then Rue Saint Maur, hence the surname, "Dames de St. Maur."

Rules for the Community along with directions for their spiritual lives were drawn up by Father Barré in the year 1681, which received the approval of the Holy See. Encouraged by its success he also founded in the same year a male branch of the Congregation with the same object. The Congregation spread rapidly with marked success, and when the French Revolution—so disastrous to the Teaching Congregation—broke out in 1789 they numbered over six hundred Religious Houses in thirty-five Dioceses in France.

The Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus were the first to go to the Japanese missions, where they have large houses at Yokohama and Tokio. They have also Establishments in Bangkok, Malacca, Penang, and Singapore.

A Congregation called "Filles de l'Enfant Jésus" was founded by Mlle. Natalie-Joseph Doignies assisted by l'Abbé Détrey, at Lille in the year 1824. Its chief object is the education and instruction of the poor, the visitation of the sick and other works of external charity. Their Rule prescribes no particular austerities ; a postulancy of three years and a noviciate of one year is followed by the taking of the Religious vows. A dowry is required for

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* Minims :—Order founded by St. Francis of Paula, in Calabria, in the year 1436. They were Franciscan Hermits and followed a Rule of great austerity.

themselves chiefly to the education and instruction of children of all classes. In missionary countries they take up all works of external charity for the greater glory of God and the salvation of their neighbour.

The Sisters chant daily in the choir the Little Office of the B.V.M.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be good enough for fulfilling the duties of the Religious life and for becoming useful members of the Congregation. For a Choir Sister, requisite qualities for a teacher, ability and aptitude for study, and a sound judgment, are also necessary.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a good outfit, by Rule a dowry, at least sufficient to cover the training and Noviciate expenses, is required. A certificate for teaching or some equivalent qualifications will be taken into consideration in the question of the pension.

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admission. The Congregation numbers at present about 1000 professed Religious, and has a number of Establishments in Belgium, with the Mother House at Lille.

Madame Connolly founded at Tunbridge Wells, England, in 1840 a Congregation of a similar title, "Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus." Its chief object is the education and instruction of youth. They have houses with primary and upper class schools at St. Leonards-on-Sea ; Mayfield ; Mark Cross ; Tunbridge Wells ; Harrogate ; Blackpool ; Oxford ; Cavendish Square, London.

Lay Sisters may be admitted without a dowry, provided they give satisfaction otherwise.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the age of sixteen years upwards.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Sister a good education is desirable, or at least sufficient intelligence and ability to render service either in teaching or in other useful employments.

For Lay Sister nothing special is required.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism, Confirmation, and testimonials of training, if any; references from the parish priest, spiritual director or former employer.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

This Congregation declined to give any detailed information as to its Rules and Constitutions.

The costume of the Choir Sister is black with a long train, and similar to the dress worn by widows in the reign of Louis XIV. They wear a collar and *coif* of black silk, and a long veil of black crape is added when they are before the Blessed Sacrament or out-of-doors.

Lay Sisters wear a round black skirt and no train. A *fichu* and a fluted white cap complete their costume.

The Dames of St. Maur have Convents at Weybridge, to which is attached a high-class training and day school for young ladies, and one at Wolverhampton.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Convent of Dames de St. Maur, Weybridge, Surrey.

Sisters of Holy Faith *

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Object of the Congregation:—

The Congregation, originally founded for the care of Catholic orphans, unites the contemplative with the active life. Teaching in primary schools, private day schools, infants' and junior boys' schools, and the care of the poor, form a large part of the Sisters' external life.

Health and respective qualifications:—

Good health, and a good recommendation for character and dispositions for the Religious life, together with a strong desire of perfection, are necessary conditions.

Pecuniary means required for Admission:—

The material conditions for admission vary according to circumstances, age and training. It belongs to the Mother General to fix the dower, and each case is treated according to its own merits.

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* The Congregation of Sisters of Holy Faith is an offshoot of the Ladies' Association of Charity which was founded in Dublin about the year 1850, out of which grew St. Brigid's Orphanage which was begun in 1857, and in which to-day (1912) some 3000 orphans have been trained and placed in situations. Being confident of its success and spiritual advantages, his Eminence Cardinal Cullen, Archbishop of Dublin, formed the Religious Community known by the name of Sisters of Holy Faith. The Congregation is active almost exclusively in the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland, in which it has some fourteen Convents.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the age of eighteen upwards. Widows of a reasonable age free from all earthly ties and obligations may also be admitted.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates are to produce Certificates of Baptism, Confirmation, and of parents' marriage, and references from the clergy or Institute as the case may be.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The postulancy lasts six months, sometimes longer, and is followed by the Clothing and a two years' Noviciate. At the end of the Noviciate temporary vows are taken followed by perpetual Profession after some years of Religious life. The Sisters' habit and veil are black ; a white guimpe and binder complete the dress. Novices wear a white veil.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Convent of the Holy Faith, Glasnevin, Dublin, Ireland.

Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary have for their chief object, in addition to self-sanctification, teaching, nursing, orphanage work, etc., and all works of charity.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Only Candidates of perfect health, honourable family and without physical deformity are received. No domestics may apply.

The Community has no Lay Sisters; all Sisters being equal.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Postulants should bring a dowry of at least £100 unless in the case of a highly qualified lady, when a dispensation is obtained from the Holy See.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from sixteen or seventeen to twenty-five years of age. After that age, a dispensation is required.

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* The Society of Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary was founded about the year 1840 at Blon, Calvados, France, by the Countess de St. Léonard, in Religion Mother Mary of the Sacred Heart of Mary. Previous to the recent fateful Religious persecution in France the Society numbered some forty French Convents with schools, hospitals, orphanages and other charitable Institutes.

Preparatory training :—

Candidates seeking admission into the Noviciate, and who think of being employed either in teaching or in nursing, must be qualified for such work.

Uncertificated subjects are employed in domestic duties.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates must submit :

a. Certificates of Birth, Baptism, and Confirmation.

b. References from the parish priest or spiritual director.

c. Testimonials from Institute of training, if any.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term of Noviceship which follows the Clothing is two years without vows.

After two years' Noviciate, the postulant takes vows for one year, after that for three years, and finally the perpetual vows are made according to the wish of each individual.

The Sisters' habit is of a simple shape and black.

Future Employment :—

Besides the ordinary duties of conventual life, the Sisters are employed in schools,

hospitals, orphanages, or in any domestic work according to their aptitudes and acquirements.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Couvent des Sœurs du Cœur Immaculé de Marie, Blon, Calvados, France.

Other Establishments :—

In England the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary have two Convents: Meeching Place, Newhaven, Sussex, and Boston Lodge, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Both Communities are French.

For application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House (see above).

England: The Mother Superior, The Convent, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Sisters of the Infancy of Jesus and Mary *

* * *

Object of the Institute :—

The Congregation of Sisters of the Infancy of Jesus and Mary has a twofold object: (*a*) Teaching; (*b*) Care of the sick.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good normal health and freedom from any hereditary disease is required. Persons who have served as domestic servants cannot be admitted as Choir Sisters, but may become Lay Sisters. Candidates must also be of a respectable family, one in which there has been no dishonour; their birth must be legitimate, and there must be no obligations which should keep the Candidate in the world.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry of £80 and an outfit is required for a Choir Sister. If at the moment of entry the person cannot produce the necessary sum of money, but nevertheless has the

* The Congregation is under the Patronage of St. Chrétienne, Virgin and Apostle, by which name the Institute is called. It was founded by Madame de Mejanés and Mgr. Jauffret, Bishop of Metz, in the year 1807. It spread with remarkable success, and the Congregation has at present many branch houses both in the old and in the new world. Pope Pius VII first approved the Congregation in 1834, which approval was renewed by Pius IX in 1857. His Holiness Pope Leo XIII confirmed the Constitutions and recognized the Congregation as an Institute in 1899.

certitude of being able to obtain it later on from her parents, she may be accepted.

For a Lay Sister a dowry of £4 is required.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates may not apply for admission before sixteen years of age or after twenty-five.

Preparatory training :—

For a Choir Sister a Candidate must have gone through a course of instruction, or at least have the capacity for study, needle-work, or some other useful work, so as to render service in the Congregation.

For a Lay Sister the Candidate should be sufficiently intelligent to make herself useful in the different kinds of manual labour.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

b. Doctor's certificate of health.

c. A certificate of good conduct from the civil authorities.

d. A reference from the parish priest or Institute of training, if any.

e. A written consent of the parents or guardians.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

One year of postulancy without interruption, then the habit is received, followed by a canonical year (one year and one day) of Noviciate.

Annual vows are made during ten years. At the end of this period, if the Sister is judged worthy, perpetual vows are pronounced and the ring is received. From this moment the Sister belongs definitely to the Institute.

The Sisters' habit consists of a black veil; a white coif, black cloth guimpe, plain silver cross, and a large Rosary hanging from the belt complete the costume.

Future Employment :—

The Sisters may be employed indifferently either for teaching or for hospital work. Nevertheless, attention is generally paid to the desires and aptitudes of the individual.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Noviciate : Convent of Ste. Chrétienne, Rue de Paris, Torcy, Sedan, Ardennes.

Mother House : Convent of Ste. Chrétienne, 60 Rue de l'Evêché, Metz, Germany.

There now remain in France but a few Hospitals.

Other Establishments :—

The Institute has Establishments in Lorraine, Germany ; in Belgium, Austria, England and America. In the latter country there is also a Noviciate at Salem near Boston.

At each Noviciate is a boarding school, a house of Retreat, and a country house.

English Convents : New Brompton ; Strood ; Staines ; Wealdstone.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother House at Metz, Noviciate at Torcy, or Mother Superior of any of the above houses.

For addresses of English Houses, see *Catholic Directory*.

Sisters of Saint Agnes *

* * *

Object of the Congregation:—

The Community of Sisters of Saint Agnes devotes itself, in addition to the sanctification and salvation of its own members, to the education of youth of all classes of society and to all works of mercy which Providence may assign to it. The Sisters have the care of hospitals, homes for the aged poor, orphanages, and they teach in a large number of parochial schools.

Health and respective qualifications:—

It is necessary that the Candidate's health should be sufficiently good to support the Community life and to become a useful member of the Institute.

Pecuniary means required for Admission:—

The dower varies according to the circumstances, the age, the training and the abilities of a Candidate. It is for the Mother General to decide in each case. She will forward admission particulars to the Candidate upon application.

The Congregation was founded at Fond du Lac, Wis., America, in the year 1870. It owes its existence to the solicitude and zeal of Mgr. Jean Martin Henni, Bishop of Milwaukee. The Institute and its Constitutions were approved by the Holy See in 1881. The Community counts at present (1912) some 350 Religious.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

E Division Street, Fond du Lac, Wis. America.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has Establishments and conducts schools, homes, etc., in the Archdioceses of Chicago, Milwaukee, New York and in the Dioceses of Altoona Cleveland, Concordia, Green Bay, Marquette, Pittsburg, etc.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother General as above.

Sisters of St. Charles Borromeo*

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Object of the Congregation :—

In addition to self-sanctification and the sal-

* Emmanuel Chauvenet, lawyer in the Parliament at Metz, whose charity towards the poor and sick knew no limit, may justly be considered to have laid the foundation of the Institute of Sisters of St. Charles of Borromeo. Having carried on for a number of years a pharmacy for the benefit of the sick poor in his paternal home, he hastened to Toul in 1651, where a contagious sickness raged, and there, while zealously tending the victims of the plague, he fell a martyr to charity, leaving to posterity an immortal example in the formation of a society, life in which was to be a perpetual self-immolation to all works of charity.

The perpetuation of his life-example and dying behest was carried on by his virtuous father, who, by the disposal of his possessions, and with the assistance of pious widows and other ladies, established legally the first "Institute of Charity" at Nancy in 1651, of which Institute Mlle. Barbe Thouvenin was nominated directress.

The Community derives its name of "St. Charles of Borromeo" from the fact that it included in its spacious foundation the Establishment so-named founded by Charles IV in the year 1626 for the benefit of homeless and poor children.

The Institute was raised to a canonically erected Religious Community bound by vows in 1662, and Ann Royer, widow of Nicolas Virion, councillor to the Duke of Lorraine, became the first professed Superioress. She was succeeded by the Venerable Mère Barbe Godfroy, and it is she whom the Community gratefully acknowledges as having put the Congregation on a firm basis. The Community, as its enterprises increased, spread with surprising success, opening successfully no less than twenty-three spacious military and civil hospitals within twenty-five years of its foundation, and the Sisters of St. Charles of Borromeo—devoted and heroic victims to charity and worthy examples of their patron Saint—have stood unmoved in the trying and fateful days of persecutions. (See *Nancy-Trierer Borromaerinnen*, by Rev. Dr. W. Hohn.)

A branch Congregation, quite separate from the above, having slightly altered Constitutions and Religious habit, is that founded under a similar title in the year 1855 in Silesia with its Mother House at Trebnitz.

A Congregation under a similar title again and with more or less similar objects was founded by Dean Antony van Baer at Maestricht (Holland) in the year 1837.

vation of its own members by the observance of the Religious life, this Congregation has for its primary and chief objects the indiscriminate tending of the sick and the rescuing of the poor. In the course of time the Sisters have added to their primary object the care of orphanages, the direction of asylums, homes and upper class industrial and boarding schools for ladies.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates' health must be good ; freedom from any hereditary or other disease and from impeding worldly liabilities is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Postulants are expected to pay a pension during the term of probation and of Noviciate inclusive. This, however, may be dispensed with in some special cases. A good and suitable outfit is required in all cases, and the dowry demanded is regulated according to circumstances.

Age of Candidates :—

By Rule, postulants are admitted between the ages of nineteen and twenty-seven.

Preparatory training :—

Although no special training is required for

admission, yet Candidates should be on the whole well educated and show sufficient ability and talent to be trained to fit them for one or other of the branches of work carried on by the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation must be produced. A doctor's certificate of health, if demanded; good references from the clergy or other reliable authority are also requested.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate extends over three years, the last of which is regularly spent in the Mother House. Candidates are, first of all, postulants for a term of six months at least, and this is followed by the Clothing which takes place at fixed times, either in spring or in autumn, for which reason the postulancy may be extended some months.

The Sisters' habit is of black serge; the wimple and binder are of white linen.

In addition to the three Religious vows, the Sisters of St. Charles of Borromeo take a fourth: to devote their lives to the service of the sick and abandoned poor. The vows are simple but perpetual.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

With its Mother House at Nancy, the Con-

gregation is divided into Provinces with their own headquarters :

German Province ; Borromaerinnen-Kloster, Trier (Mosel).

Austrian Province : Prag.

The Congregation has many and various Establishments, about 120 in number, almost all of which are on the Continent.

In Italy they have a hospital at Frascati and the charge of an asylum in Rome.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superiors of the above respectively.

Sisters of St. Dorothy*

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Object of the Institute :—

The objects are : Moral and Religious Education of young girls in boarding and day schools, orphanages, etc. ; Retreats for ladies and children ; assisting the clergy in the instruction of children in Christian Doctrine, and in promoting what is known as the " Pia opera di Sta. Dorotea."

Health and respective qualifications :—

Required : legitimate birth, good education and irreproachable character, good health, talents sufficient to render the Candidate capable of carrying on the objects of the Institute.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

By Rule, but subject to relaxation in very special cases, a dowry of £400 for Choir

* The Society was founded in Italy about the year 1834 by the brothers Mark and Luke, Counts Passi of Bergamo. As originally intended by the pious founders, the "Dorotheans" devote themselves in a special and singular manner to protecting and to giving a good moral, Christian education and a practical training in domestic service, to poor and abandoned girls. The more effectively to pursue their object as regards girls confided to their care but living in the world, the Sisters have in some large Italian cities well-organized vigilance committees composed of devoted lay people, whose duty it is to watch over and protect in every way such young women. Pope Gregory XVI approved the regular branch of the Institute and commended by Brief the Associates in 1835 and 1841 respectively.

Nuns and of £20 for Lay Sisters is required.

Age of Candidates :—

Subjects are admitted from the age of fifteen up to thirty ; exceptions, however, may be made for well recommended Candidates above that age.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation and testimonials of good character and freedom must be furnished.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The time of Noviciate is two years for all Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters.

The Choir Nuns are postulants for three months and Lay Sisters for six months. The Clothing takes place at the end of the postulantship and previously to entering the Noviciate. Profession is not made until after eight years of Religious life, excluding the time spent in the Noviciate.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Conservatorio di Santa Maria, Salita Sant' Onofrio 38, Roma.

Other Establishments :—

Genoa : Via San Nazzaro, San Francesco d'Albaro.

Brazil: Collegio de Nossa Senhora dos Dores, Nova Friburgo.

Liverpool: Brookland, Aigburth Road, S.

The Congregation has also made a foundation in New York, U.S.A.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Madre Generale delle Dorotee, Mother House as above, or:

England; Mother Superior, Brookland, Aigburth Road, Liverpool, S.

Sisters of St. John of God*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters of St. John of God devote themselves chiefly to the care of the sick and poor either in hospitals, asylums or in their own homes. The Congregation also undertakes the direction of parochial and Industrial schools and owns homes for the aged.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be good enough for fulfilling the duties of the Congregation's religious life, where laborious and at times disagreeable work is required, not from any earthly motive, but solely for the love of God and heir neighbour.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry is fixed by the Superior according to the Candidate's circumstances, age, and abilities, but postulants are expected

* The Congregation, which is an affiliation to the Order of St. John of God,* was founded at Wexford (Ireland) in 1871. It claims as founder Dr. Furlong, Bishop of Ferns. The object and constitutions of the Congregation are identical with those of the male branch, and it adds to the works of tending the sick and poor the taking charge of industrial and parochial schools, homes, asylums, or any other work of charity as the Bishop of the Diocese may direct.

* The Order called "Order of Charity" from the motto of the pious founder, "Fate bene Fratelli," was founded by St. John of God at Granada (Spain) in 1540. See *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I.

to be able to defray, in part at least, the necessary training expenses for becoming nurses or teachers.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the age of eighteen up to about thirty. Persons above that age possessing suitable qualifications may be admitted by exception.

Preparatory training :—

To hold qualifications for teaching or nursing is highly desirable but not a condition for admission. Candidates requiring training will receive such to fit them for the various works carried on by the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation are required. Also references from the clergy bearing upon the Candidate's character and respectability.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for a term of about six months. If admitted they are then clothed and begin their Noviciate, which lasts two years. At the end of the Noviciate the vows are taken. The members of the Congregation, like those of the men's branch, add to the three ordinary vows

a fourth: to devote their lives to the care of the sick, poor and ignorant.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate:—

Convent of Sisters of St. John of God, Wexford, Ireland.

Other Establishments:—

The Irish Congregation has, in addition to the above, establishments at: Kilkenny; Castlecomer; Thomastown; Rathdowney, Queen's Co.; Kilmore, Co. Wexford.

For Application or further information apply to:—

Mother Superior, St. John's Convent, Wexford, Ireland.

Sisters of St. Joseph *

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Object of the Congregation:—

The Sisters of St. Joseph have for their

* The Congregation was founded by Mgr. de Maupas, Bishop of Le Puy (France), assisted by Father Medalle, S.J., about the year 1650, with the object of perpetuating the original idea of St. Francis of Sales, who, when founding the Visitation Order, intended it to be an uncloistered Order whose members should combine the contemplative with the active life. The Congregation devotes itself to any works of mercy if the need exists and means are at hand, and they have the care of orphanages, hospitals, schools, asylums and Magdalene houses in various parts of the world.

In imitation of the above a Congregation called "*Sisters of St. Joseph of Aubenas*" was founded by l'Abbé Mazard, at Vesseaux (France) about the year 1805. The pious founder modelled his Congregation upon that founded by Bishop de Maupas at Puy in 1650, whose object and constitutions he adopted.

Another offshoot of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Puy is the Congregation founded by Mgr. A. R. Devie, Bishop of Belley (France), known as "*Sisters of St. Joseph de Bourg*," deriving its name from the city of their Mother House and Noviciate. This Congregation has added to the original object such works as teaching in Elementary schools, the care of hospitals, asylums and the visitation of the sick poor, the education of upper classes, for which the Congregation has established young ladies' boarding schools (pensionates).

The Congregation of Puy is also considered to be the Parent Tree of the Societies of a similar title and nature founded at Bordeaux, Chambéry, Clairvaux, Lyons, and those established subsequently in America. See Catholic Directories respectively.

In 1891 Dr. Korum, Bishop of Trier (Germany), founded a Congregation under the same title and with similar objects and constitutions. The Mother House is at Trier, Simeonstiftstrasse 15. This Congregation has branches in Berlin and Wien, Germany.

A Congregation known as "*Little Daughters of St. Joseph*" was founded at Montreal, 45 Rue Notre Dame de Lourdes (Canada), by Father Antoine Mercier, in the year 1857, with the object of assisting the parochial clergy in spiritual and temporal matters. The Community received Episcopal approbation in 1897, and it numbers at present (1912) some eighty professed Religious.

The Congregation of "*Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Hyacinth*" was

object in addition to self-sanctification chiefly the education and instruction of the young, the care and direction of hospitals, orphanages, asylums, Magdalene houses, etc. They also visit and nurse the sick in their own homes—in fact they undertake any work of mercy possible and as far as needs demand.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be sufficiently good to support the Community life and to become a useful member of the Congregation. To be of a respectable parentage, to be free from any hereditary disease or notable deformity, and to be well recommended for Religious dispositions is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Besides a good and suitable outfit a small dowry is required which, however, in the

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founded by the Rt. Rev. Louis-Zéphirin Moreau, Bishop of St. Hyacinth, for the education of youth and for the care and the visitation of the sick poor within the Diocese. This Congregation has now (1912) several educational and other Establishments in the Diocese of St. Hyacinth, and numbers in all 200 professed members.

A Congregation with objects and constitutions similar to the aforesaid is that of "*Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart*." The foundation was made at Penola (Australia) in the year 1866 by the saintly Father J. T. Woods, assisted by Miss Mary Macillop. The Community, whose activities extend over various Dioceses, numbers at present (1912) 670 members ; it has the care of 117 schools and owns thirteen Establishments of charity such as orphanages, industrial homes, girls' reformatories, etc. The Mother House of the Congregation is in Sydney, New South Wales, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

case of a highly educated and well recommended Candidate may be dispensed with. To hold a certificate for teaching, nursing, or some other useful accomplishment will be taken into consideration in the question of a dowry. Candidates without any previous training who are not able to pay anything require special consideration.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the age of eighteen upwards.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates are required to submit : Certificates of Birth, Baptism, Confirmation and parents' marriage. References from the clergy, Institute of training, or employers, are also required.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

A postulancy of some months is followed by a Noviciate of from one to two years. At the end of the Noviciate, annual simple vows are taken for three years ; after that time perpetual vows may be pronounced.

The Sisters' habit consists of a simple black dress and veil. A wimple and binder of white linen complete the costume.

Establishments :—

England : The Sisters of St. Joseph have

Houses at Newport, where English subjects make their Noviciate; Bristol; Devizes and Malmesbury.

For other countries see Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superior, Convent of Sisters of St. Joseph, Newport.

Sisters of St. Joseph's English Society for Foreign Missions *

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Object of the Society :—

Sanctification of its members by the faithful observance of the Rule and the acquisition of the spirit of the Third Order of St. Francis. The Society also devotes itself to any work of charity, which the Bishop of the Diocese in which they live, and the Superior General desire them to do.

Health and respective qualifications :—

As the Sisters of St. Joseph's Society have for their object any work of charity, in-

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* The Society of Sisters of St. Joseph's Foreign Missions, Mill Hill, under the observance of the Rule of the Third Order of St. Francis, was founded by Dr. Herbert Vaughan, afterwards Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, in connection with the English Foreign Mission Society.

The first Superioress and Mother General of the Society was Mother Mary Francis (*née* Alice Ingham), who made a first foundation at Mill Hill, London, about the year 1883, which was subsequently followed by several branch houses at home and abroad. See Establishments.

The Missionary Society of Sisters of St. Joseph must not be confounded with the Community called Sisters Tertiary of Mill Hill with a similar object and constitutions. Madame Mary Elizabeth Basil, a member of a Protestant Religious Community, but who in 1868 under the direction of the late Cardinal Manning, along with a number of other ladies of that Community, was converted to the Catholic Faith, became the foundress and first Superior of the latter Society. Her name in Religion was Mother Mary Francis of the Five Wounds. The foundation at Mill Hill, St. Mary's Abbey, which became the Mother House, was made in the year 1871. They have a number of branch houses with various charitable institutions in England and in the Foreign Missions. See also "Franciscan Nuns," footnote.

cluding that of undergoing the hardships of Foreign Missions, good health is essential. Postulants must also be of a respectable parentage, free from any hereditary disease, and above all have good dispositions for the Religious life, and be willing to devote their lives to the service of God in the Society, and desirous to share in the poverty and sufferings of Our Lord.

There is no distinction of Choir and Lay among the Sisters. They only form one class without distinction or rank.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Postulants are expected to defray, in part at least, the Noviciate and training expenses, but should a well recommended Candidate be unable to pay anything, the dowry may be dispensed with, provided the subject gives otherwise satisfaction.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the ages of fifteen and upwards. Candidates that have been admitted into any other Religious Congregation require special consideration.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates seeking admission into the Society must submit : Certificates of Birth, Baptism, and Confirmation. References

from the parish priest, spiritual director, employers or Institute are also required.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a postulancy of not less than six months, the Noviciate is entered upon, and it lasts not less than two years. At the end of the Noviciate simple vows are taken which are renewed annually for ten successive years. After that time perpetual vows may be pronounced. After the term of ten years of Religious life the Sisters are called Mothers.

Future Employment :—

All Sisters admitted to the Society must be ready to stay on the Home Missions or to be sent on the Foreign Missions as the Superiors may decide.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

St. Joseph's Convent, Patricroft, near Manchester, England.

Other Establishments :—

England : The Missionary Sisters of St. Joseph (Third Order of St. Francis) have branch houses at St. Joseph's College, Mill Hill, London, N.W.; Princess St., Blackburn ; Fountain St., Nelson ; St. Bede's College, Manchester, S.W.; St. Peter's College, Freshfield, Liverpool.

Ireland ; St. John's College and St. Patrick's

Home, Waterford; St. Finn Barr's Seminary, Cork.

Holland: St. Joseph's Mission House, Rozendaal.

Foreign Missions: St. Teresa's Convent, Kuching; Sarawak, Borneo (the Provincial House); and at Kanowit; Singhi; The Cut, Egan. These are all in the domain of Rajah Brook.

In British North Borneo they are at Sandakan and Vapar.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother General, St. Joseph's Convent, Patricroft, near Manchester, England.

Others: Mothers Superior of above houses respectively.

Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition *

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Object of the Society :—

The members of this Congregation have for their object their own sanctification and that of their neighbour ; to live in union with God, uniting, as St. Joseph did, the works of an active life to the practice of the interior one, so that they may be truly fit to do good to their neighbour by instructing

* The Congregation was founded by Emilie de Vialar, assisted by l'Abbé Mercier, her spiritual director, in the year 1832 at Gaillac, department of Tarn et Garonne, France. The Congregation increased within one year to the number of twenty-six Religious, and its Rules and Constitutions received Episcopal sanction. It includes all the diverse works of charity carried on by other religious Orders—orphanages, hospitals, homes, nursing homes, visiting the sick and nursing them in their own houses. Most of the houses, however, are schools for boarders and day scholars.

At the time of the cholera epidemic in Africa the French civil authorities requested the Community to come to the aid of their suffering soldiers and the poor African people. The foundress willingly responded, and accompanied by a small band of Sisters made a foundation at Algiers in 1834. This was followed by the opening of schools for elementary and upper classes. Owing, however, to unfortunate circumstances along with misunderstandings, the Community had to abandon their establishments and to leave Algiers about the year 1842.

Algiers' loss was Tunis' gain, where they opened a house at Marsa in 1843 ; and the first foundation was made at La Valetta (Malta) about the year 1847, followed by foundations at Beyrout, Rangoon (Burmah) and others.

At the invitation of Dr. Casartelli, Bishop of Salford, the Community came again to England in 1904, just fifty years after the closing of their house at Oxford, and made a foundation at Whalley Range, S.W. Manchester, which Convent "The Home" was solemnly opened by his Lordship Bishop Casartelli in 1905. Here as in other countries the good Sisters devote themselves with unselfish devotedness to charitable works, and to the care of aged and infirm gentlewomen.

the young and the orphan, succouring the poor, relieving the sick, and assisting the dying.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must be of legitimate birth, healthy, bodily and mentally, free from hereditary disease or striking deformity, and above all they must be well recommended for their religious dispositions, having the requisite qualifications or taste for teaching, nursing or for household duties.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Equality prevails among the Community and all must be provided with a complete outfit (trousseau), pay the sum of money prescribed by the rules for the time of their probation and Noviciate and, before taking their vows, pay a dowry of £120 at least. If, however, a young girl has no means but has a real vocation along with dispositions to become a useful member, admission may be obtained without the dowry.

Age of Candidates :—

The age for admission varies from seventeen to thirty years. A subject must be well qualified to be admitted when older, and be disposed to perform at all times any task required from the Superiors conformable to the Rules and Constitutions.

Preparatory training :—

Young persons wishing to ascertain their vocation may, on the required conditions, be received as probationers in any branch of the Congregation (Manchester, for England). If found suitable they are sent to the Noviciate, where they receive their religious training and pursue a course of studies, each according to her aptitudes.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation and good health are required. References from the parish priest or spiritual director, bearing upon the person's character and testifying that she is free from debts, and that she has not been expelled from any other religious Community, are also required.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

As the Sisters of St. Joseph live in religious equality ; all without exception must remain two whole years either as probationers, postulants or Novices, so that they may be thoroughly trained in the practice of religious life, as well as duly prepared to fulfil any of the avocations of the Congregation.

The habit is given after a postulant has given satisfactory proofs of a true Religious vocation.

To be admitted to Profession, the Novice

should be free from serious indisposition and have given unquestionable proofs of a true and solid vocation. After six years of temporal vows she is admitted to make her final profession.

The Sisters' habit consists of a black dress and veil, a white coif and guimpe. Novices wear a black cap and cape instead of a veil.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition, 145 Capelette, Marseilles (France).

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation possesses above one hundred houses in France, England, Italy, Malta, Cyprus, Greece, Palestine, Syria, Armenia, Bulgaria, Roumelia, The Grecian Archipelago, Northern Africa, British Burma, Western Australia, etc.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : The Mother Superior, The Home, Whalley Range, Manchester, S.W.

Other addresses as above respectively.

Sisters of St. Joseph de Cluny *

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Object of the Congregation :—

Besides the sanctification of its own members by the observance of the Religious life, the Community devotes itself to all works of zeal and charity, especially to the care of the sick and poor and to the education of the young.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants must be healthy both mentally and physically. For Choir Sisters a good education and ability for study or training is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission ;—

Besides a good and suitable outfit (trousseau) a fairly large dowry is required, and very

* Founded at Chamblanc, France, by Madame Anne Marie Javouhey along with her three sisters in the year 1807. The Congregation devotes itself chiefly to education of youth and to extending the blessing of Christian Education to the African negroes. For this object a suitable course of study and preparation is gone through by all Candidates destined for the Foreign Missions. Although founded at Chamblanc, the native place of the pious foundress, Cluny, the city of the Mother House and the first Noviciate, may be considered the cradle of the Congregation. At the dawn of the fateful French Religious persecution this Congregation counted as many as 5000 Religious and some 150 Establishments in various parts of the world. The Mother House was later on transferred to Paris and put under the direction of the Holy Ghost Fathers, who have always taken great interest in the welfare of the Congregation both at home and in the Foreign Missions. The Holy See formally approved the Congregation in 1854.

rarely dispensed with in the case of a Choir Sister.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted for Choir Sisters from the ages of seventeen to twenty-five ; Lay Sisters may find admission up to thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Sisters a good and sound education is necessary. To have had a college or hospital training will be taken into consideration in the question of the dowry.

For a Lay Sister nothing special is required.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates seeking admission must submit Certificates of parents' marriage, of Baptism and Confirmation. References from the parish priest or any other competent authority testifying that the postulant is of irreproachable character and free from all liabilities must also be produced.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts two years and is preceded by some months of postulancy. At the end of the Noviciate term simple vows are made for three years, and after that time either quinquennial or perpetual simple vows may be taken.

The Choir Sisters' habit consists of a blue serge dress with large sleeves and a black scapular. Lay Sisters have a similar habit, but they wear an apron and a shawl of black material. Their head-wear consists of a white "cornette," over which they have a small black veil.

Establishments :—

The Congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny has spread not only all over Europe, but over all parts of the world. It numbers several Noviciates proper to the various provinces, which are all under the chief government of the Superioress General. The Sisters have chief Establishments with many branch houses on the Continent, in America, Africa, Asia, Oceania, etc. In latter years they have also made foundations in England, Ireland, Scotland, Denmark, Sweden and Italy.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Foregate House (English Noviciate), Stafford.

Ireland : St. Joseph's, Ferbane, King's County.

For other countries see Catholic Directories respectively.

Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace*

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace unite the active with the contemplative life by adding to the observance of the Religious life such works as the direction of schools for elementary and upper classes, the care of orphanages, homes for girls, etc. They also undertake district nursing and the visitation of the poor.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be sufficiently good to support the Community life. Candidates must also have a good character and be of a fixed determination to devote their lives and talents to the service of God in the Congregation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Postulants should be furnished with a good outfit and bring a dowry according to their means. Qualifications for nursing or teaching or any other useful work will be taken into consideration.

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* The Congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace was founded in the year 1884 by Bishop Bagshawe in Nottingham. At the request of the Right Rev. Dr. Wigger, Bishop of Newark, N.J., a first American foundation was made in Jersey City in 1885, which was soon followed by others (see Establishments). The approbation of the Holy See was received in 1895.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

b. References from the clergy or any other duly qualified persons as to their character and freedom.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

After a postulancy of six months, the Candidate begins her Noviciate, which lasts two years. The Noviciate is followed by the taking of triennial simple vows. At the end of the three years the Sister makes her perpetual profession.

The Congregation has only one class of Sisters. There are no Lay Sisters.

The Sisters' habit is of dark navy-blue serge with a scapular of the same material. They wear a white guimpe and a black veil. A silver ring is given at the final profession.

Establishments :—

The Mother House of the Congregation is at Nottingham, with a branch house at Great Grimsby.

In America they have a Noviciate at Engle-

wood, N.J., and establishments at Fairhaven, Washington, Rossland, etc. In Jersey City the Sisters have a Home and school for the blind, two houses for girls, and an Orphanage.

For Application or further information apply to:—

The Mother House, Nottingham, or Mother Superior of any of the above Houses.

Sisters of St. Kunegunda *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation devotes itself to all works of external charity—caring for the aged poor, tending the sick and infirm, conducting orphanages, teaching in parochial schools, etc.

Conditions of Admission, etc. :—

The Rules and Constitutions of this new Congregation are identical with those of the Franciscan Tertiaries Regular (see Index). The dower demanded varies according to the Candidate's personal and family circumstances, age, training, ability, etc., and the applicant must stand by the Mother General's decision, who considers that a true and solid vocation is the most important item for the Religious life.

Establishments :—

The Mother House of the Congregation is in Chicago III, cor. Hamlin and Schubert Aves. The Noviciate (foundation of

* The Institute of Sisters of St. Kunegunda (Polish-Franciscans) was founded in Chicago in 1896 for the care of the aged, the crippled, the sick and orphans. The Community has also the direction of parochial schools. It counts at present (1912) about 160 Religious including Novices.

English speaking Candidates) 59 W. 15th St., Chicago Hights III.

The Community counts (1912) one Orphan Asylum, one Home for the aged and crippled, one Day Nursery, and has the direction of eleven parochial schools.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother General, Mother House, as above.

Sisters of St. Martin of Tours*

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The principal work of this Congregation is, besides self-sanctification, the education of the young, and nursing of the sick without reserve or distinction.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates must enjoy fairly good health, and not suffer from any mental or other deformity. They must also belong to honest and respectable parents.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Congregation demands no dowry provided that the Candidate is otherwise well recommended.

Age of Candidates :—

There is no actual age limit, but the Congregation prefers Candidates young, viz. from seventeen to twenty-four years of age. If they enter later they are expected to have acquired some knowledge which will render them useful to the Community either in the way of teaching, nursing, needlework or housework.

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* The Congregation was originally founded under the name of "Third Order of Carmel." It adopted the present title in the year 1824.

Preparatory training:—

The Choir Sisters must be fairly well educated and should be prepared to continue their studies should the Community wish them to do so.

Intending Lay Sisters should be able to read and write.

Certificates and References required:—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation must be submitted. Good References from the clergy or Institute of training are also required.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession:—

The Noviciate lasts at least two years and sometimes longer, according to circumstances. Candidates are postulants for at least three months, and they cannot be professed until they are above eighteen years of age. Otherwise there is no special time fixed for Clothing or profession, but it generally takes place after the annual Retreat in August or September.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate:—

Communauté des Sœurs de St. Martin, Bourgueil, Indre-et-Loire, France.

Other Establishments:—

The Congregation has several houses in

German Lorraine, France, Belgium, and three in England.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House as above.

England: The Mother Superior, Page's Lane, Muswell Hill, London, N.

Sisters of St. Mary of Namur*

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The chief objects of the members of this Congregation are : (*a*) Their own personal sanctification ; (*b*) The Christian education and instruction of young girls.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates must have the necessary health and aptitude to render service to the Institute either in teaching or in domestic work.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A fair sum is required for Noviciate fees, trousseau and dowry, but should a member leave the Institute, for any cause whatever, the dowry is returned to her.

Teachers' diplomas may compensate for some or all of the dowry, and other concessions may be made.

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* The Congregation was founded in the humble way of opening a workroom for girls at Namur, Belgium, in the year 1819, by l'Abbé J. N. Minsart, late Religious of the suppressed Abbey at Boneffe of the Order of St. Bernard. In 1831 Rosalie Niset, in Religion Mother Claire de Jésus, associated herself to the promising Institute, and on account of her so ably and successfully carrying on the good work after Father Minsart's premature death, is claimed as the co-foundress of this prosperous Congregation. It was not until the year 1834 that the Religious habit was first taken by the Community, then sixteen in number, eight out of whom were simultaneously admitted to profession.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from fifteen up to thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

It is very desirable that the Candidates be well educated, but no special training or studies are made obligatory.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates must produce : Certificates of Baptism and of Confirmation, a letter of recommendation from the clergy, parish priest or spiritual director ; a testimonial certifying their freedom from any binding obligation, unless this last condition be self-evident.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Postulation lasts six months and the Noviciate two years.

If the postulant has fulfilled the required conditions and is determined to remain in the Institute she receives the habit after six months ; at the end of the two years' Noviciate she is admitted to profession, and makes temporary vows at different periods during six years, after which time she is admitted to make the vows in perpetuity.

The Institute comprises only one class of Sisters.

Future Employment :—

All the members of the Institute must be disposed to accept the place and employment which the Superiors assign to them according to the needs of the Institute and the aptitude of the subject.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Sœurs de Sainte Marie, Rue du Président 11, Namur, Belgium.

Other Establishments :—

The above is the Mother House for the Institute (which comprises two provinces) and also the provincial house for the Belgian Province.

The Belgian Province comprises eighteen houses in Belgium, one at Bishop's Stortford, England, and one at Rhyl, N. Wales.

The American Province, having its provincial house at Lockport, N.Y. U.S.A., comprises twelve houses in the United States and three in Canada.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Provincial of respective Province, or the Mother General at Namur. See above.

Sisters of Mercy*

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Object of the Congregation :—

Besides the sanctification of its own members, the Congregation devotes itself to all works of mercy, especially instruction of poor girls, visitation of the sick, and protection of distressed women of good character.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidate's health must be generally good and her character excellent. Freedom from organic disease or deformity is also required.

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* St. Peter of Nolasco is said to have founded the Order of Our Lady of Mercy in the early part of the thirteenth century. Originally it was intended for men only who bound themselves to the work of rescuing poor Christian captives. About the year 1265 a branch Order for women, "Sisters of Mercy," whose duty it became to beg alms and pray for the Brothers of the Order, was founded at Barcelona (Spain). It was from these Nuns that in the year 1827 Miss Katherine McAuley, an Irish lady, took the title of the Congregation she was to found not without many and trying vicissitudes at Dublin (Ireland).

With the Rule of St. Augustine and Constitutions adapted to suit its extensive object, the Congregation resembles in many respects that of St. Vincent de Paul (see "Sisters of Charity").

Each House of the Mercy Sisters has its own Noviciate, and is under government of the Bishop of the Diocese. They have no Generalate. Such has been the singular success of the Sisters of Mercy that in less than one century from its foundation the Congregation numbers over 350 houses ; some 80 of which are spread over England, and about 130 in various parts of Ireland.

Small colonies of Sisters of Mercy have at the request of Bishops and others crossed the Atlantic at various periods ever since 1846 with the object of making foundations in the New World. In the United States of America there are now (1912) no less than 4800 professed Sisters of Mercy actively engaged in teaching or in other works of external charity ; Hospitals 53, Orphanages 67.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Those seeking admission must have either a dowry or qualifications for teaching or nursing.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen up to twenty-five years of age.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Sisters a preparatory training is requisite. Unless qualified upon entrance they will receive a training to fit them for their work.

For Lay Sisters a good ordinary education is sufficient.

Certificates and References required :—

a. Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

b. Medical Certificate of health from a qualified practitioner.

c. Recommendation from the parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a postulancy of not less than six months, the Clothing takes place. The postulant then begins her Noviciate which lasts two years and is followed by profession.

Future Employment :—

The Sisters are employed in teaching in schools, in the visitation of the sick, or in domestic duties as required.

The habit is of black serge and is the same for both Choir and Lay Sisters. The wimple is white, over which is worn a black veil by the Professed and a white one by Novices.

Lay Sisters wear as a rule a white apron.

Establishments :—

The Sisters of Mercy have a large number of Convents in these Islands. The Mother House of the Congregation is at Baggot Street, Dublin, Ireland (see foot-note). To their Convents, especially in Ireland, is attached either a Training College for mistresses, Boarding Schools for ladies, Training Homes for servants or Day and Industrial Schools, Orphanages, Hospitals, etc.

Each Convent is independent. For addresses see Catholic Directories.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : The Mother Superioress, Convent of Mercy, Werneth Grange, Oldham.

Ireland : Baggot Street, Dublin.

Sisters of Miséricorde (de Séez) *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters of Miséricorde have for their chief object, in addition to self-perfection and salvation by the observance of the Religious life, nursing of the sick (rich or poor) in their own homes. Hence they are commonly called *Nursing Sisters*, who indeed, whenever and wheresoever required, indiscriminately care for and tend the suffering sick with admirable unselfish devotedness.

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* The Congregation of Sisters of Miséricorde was founded in the year 1828 by the Venerable Canon Bazin, at Séez (Orne) in France. A humble beginning—so common to all great works of God—was made by five members who had but one room to serve as home and chapel. But the charity they displayed was rewarded with charity, and large gifts of money soon enabled them to purchase houses, and the Community spread so rapidly that within thirty years of its foundation the Congregation numbered fourteen houses in France. Since then some thirty more Establishments have been founded at home and abroad.

In England ; their Convent at Hammersmith was opened in 1860.

Other Congregations of "*Sœurs de la Miséricorde*," of similar or more extensive object and constitutions, were already in existence, and more have been formed since, viz.:

Sœurs de la Miséricorde de Moissac (France), founded in 1804 by Madame Pierre Genyer.

Sœurs de la Miséricorde de Billom (France), founded in 1806 by l'Abbé Mestre.

Sœurs de la Miséricorde de Moncucq (France), founded in 1814 by Mlle. de Lavolvène at Guercy.

Sœurs de la Miséricorde de Rome (Italy), founded in 1821 by Princess Teresa Doria Pamphili.

Sœurs de la Miséricorde de Montréal (Canada), founded in 1848.

Sœurs de la Miséricorde de Renaix (Belgium), founded by l'Abbé Glorieux.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Persons who desire to enter the Congregation of La Miséricorde should have good health and belong to a respectable family. Freedom from hereditary disease, a sound judgment, a steady mind, and a determination to devote their lives and ability to the service of God and that of their neighbour are also requisite.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A small sum as a rule is to be paid monthly for board and training during the time of probation and Noviciate.

The Lay Sisters who may be received for the performance of domestic work do not pay any pension.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from about twenty to thirty years of age.

Intending Lay Sisters may find admission when even a little older than thirty if otherwise well recommended.

Preparatory training :—

A preparatory training, although desirable, is not made conditional for admission. Postulants are as a rule, trained in the Mother House for the Religious life, in hospitals for the nursing of the sick, etc.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of legitimate Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. References of blameless conduct as regards morals and probity, either from the clergy or other reliable authority.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts from two to three years and is preceded by a postulancy of about six months.

The Clothing generally takes place after six months and previous to entering the Noviciate. The latter is followed by the taking of simple vows and profession.

The Sisters' dress is of black serge ; a white cap and a black veil over it complete the habit.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Sœurs de Miséricorde, Rue d'Argentré, Séez (Orne), France.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation of Sisters of Miséricorde of Séez has forty-five Establishments in France and abroad.

In these Islands their Convent at Hammersmith is well known both to the rich whom the devoted Sisters have ever edified, and to the poor for the manifold help they bring them.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House as above ; or :

England : Mother Superior, St. Vincent's, 49 Queen St., Hammersmith, London, W.

For other countries see Catholic Directories respectively.

Sisters of the Holy Cross and of the Seven Dolours *

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Object of the Institute :—

The Community, whilst aiming at the perfection and salvation of its own members by the observance of the Religious life, devotes itself largely to external works of charity, such as the instruction and education of the ignorant and of infidels, the care of schools, dispensaries, homes, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must be of good health and of a sound and judicious mind. A good education, freedom from all liabilities, and good recommendations for their vocation are also required.

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* The Congregation founded in 1841 claims as founder l'Abbé Basil Antoine Moreau, who, however, in forming the Community worked upon the model of l'Abbé Jacques Dujarrié, the founder of the Institute of Brothers of the Holy Cross at Mans (France) in 1820.

The Congregation comprises essentially three distinct and separate branches: the Priests or *Salvatorians*, who devote themselves chiefly to evangelizing and instructing the ignorant and infidel; the Brothers or *Josephites*, who have the direction of schools and workrooms, and perform divers works of manual labour; the Sisters or *Marianites*, who educate and train children and young women and have charge over the domestic duties such as the care of dispensaries, the laundry work, etc. The Holy See approved of the Congregation *en corps* in 1859. The Institute has spread over several countries and has provinces respectively in the French, the American, the Canadian, the Italian, and in the Asiatic dominions (Bengal).

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry varies according to the Candidates' circumstances, age, education and ability. Poverty is no barrier to admission if they otherwise give satisfaction, and postulants will be trained to fit them for the various works of the Congregation.

Age of Candidates :—

The preferable age for entering the Society is from eighteen up to twenty-eight. Exceptions may be made in special circumstances.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates must submit: Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation; references from the clergy, employer or Institute.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a postulancy of some months, the Candidate receives the habit and enters a two years' Noviciate, which may be extended. This is followed by the taking of temporary vows which are made perpetual after some years, but never till she has reached the age of twenty-five.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has many Establishments in various countries and is divided into provinces accordingly (see footnote and respective Catholic Directories).

Mother House: St. Laurent, Montreal, P.Q.

Provincial House for U.S.: Nashua, N.H.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General, the Mother House as above, or to the Mother Superior of any branch house.

Sisters of the Most Holy Cross and Passion *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation has for its object: (*a*) Self-sanctification and salvation by the observance of the Religious life and the imitation of Our Lord's virtues in His Sacred Passion; (*b*) to found homes or refuges in manufacturing and trading districts for working girls, where, received on moderate terms and sheltered from the evil influences of mixed lodging houses, they receive every spiritual and temporal advantage; (*c*) to teach, to visit the sick, to take care of parochial Confraternities and similar works of external charity.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must enjoy good health. A sound judgment, freedom from any hereditary disease and ability to exercise some useful office in the Community are also required.

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* The Congregation of Sisters of the Most Holy Cross and Passion, originally called "of the Holy Family," was founded in Manchester (England) in the year 1851 by Father Ignatius Spencer, a Passionist Father, and the Very Rev. Provost Croskell, V.G., with the sanction and encouragement of Dr. Turner, first Bishop of Salford.

The Rule of the Congregation is that of St. Paul of the Cross, founder of the Passionist Fathers, with Constitutions modified to suit its primary object. See *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I.

A Spanish speaking Congregation (Chile), with a similar title and Constitutions was, by favour of the Holy See, amalgamated with the Sisters of the Most Holy Cross and Passion in February 1912.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A competent dowry or Teaching Certificate as equivalent is required.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from sixteen years upwards.

Preparatory training :—

Although it is desirable that Candidates should hold some qualification for teaching or other useful work, yet a good general education is considered sufficient for admission.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates are required to produce :

a. Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

b. A reference from the parish priest, spiritual director or other reliable authority.

c. Medical certificate of health.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts two years after a postulancy of six months.

Postulants generally receive the habit six months after entrance. At the end of the Noviciate simple temporary vows are made and final profession takes place after three years.

Future Employment :—

Teaching Secondary and Elementary Schools, charge of Orphanages and Homes for working girls, and also for better class business girls. Visiting the sick in their homes, and also in Workhouses and Hospitals, and giving Instruction where necessary.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Convent, Mt. St. Joseph, Deane, Bolton, Lancs.

Other Establishments :—

Convents at Sutton; St. Helens; Clarence St., Bolton; Pilkington St., Bolton; 43 Crescent, Salford; Lower Darwen; Victoria St., Middleton; Warrington; East Beach, Lytham; Wavertree, Liverpool; 40 Duncan Terrace, Islington, London; Barkerend Road, Bradford; Parkfield House, Bradford; West Town, Dewsbury; Batley Carr; Holbeck, Leeds; Claremont, Halifax; Ilkley; Brunswick St., Huddersfield; Ballymacarrett, Belfast; Kilcullus, Co. Kildare; Birnie Knowe, Auchinleck, Ayrshire; Waterside; Dunaskin; Lochgelly; Flintshire; Chile (several Houses).

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General, Convent, Mt. St. Joseph Deane, Bolton, England.

Sisters of the Most Holy Sacrament *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters of the Most Holy Sacrament have for their primary object the education of girls of all classes. They have also the care of hospitals, orphanages, homes, and similar charitable institutions.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must enjoy good health and be the offspring of legitimate marriage. They must also have a sound judgment, and display an aptitude for the Religious life.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Community demands no fixed dowry

* The Congregation was founded in the year 1715 at Boussieux le Roi by the saintly Père Pierre Vigne, who, the tradition says, was miraculously converted from Protestantism by the Blessed Sacrament.

Originally the Community devoted itself exclusively to the education of girls of all classes, but in the course of time they added to their external work the care of the sick poor, the charge of hospitals and similar works of charity.

Dispersed at the time of the French Revolution, the Nuns rallied again in 1804 at Romans, near Valence, under the roof of the ancient Abbey of the Religious of Saint Just, which Convent became the Mother House of the revived Congregation.

The Rule and Constitutions which the venerable founder borrowed from St. Augustine and the Visitation Order respectively, have undergone little change since their reform in 1823, with the exception that in 1845 Mgr. Chatrousse, Bishop of Valence, ordained that, in addition to the hitherto three simple vows of chastity, obedience and stability, the Religious should add that of poverty.

beyond a good trousseau. Postulants, however, should be able to defray, in part at least, the expenses of probation and training.

Age of Candidates :—

By Rule, Candidates are admitted from sixteen years upwards both for Choir and for Lay Sisters.

Preparatory training :—

It is desired that Candidates who wish to teach should be so qualified, while those who think of being employed in hospitals, etc., should have had some suitable experience, in default of which, postulants will be trained to fit them for the various works of the Congregation.

For Lay Sisters nothing special is requisite.

Certificates and References required :—

Postulants must submit Certificates of parents' marriage, Baptism and Confirmation ; also references of a good character, respectability and testimonials of training, if any.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Postulants are probationers for about three months. If they are admitted, the Clothing takes place and the Noviciate may be entered upon, which lasts for about two years in all, and is followed by the taking of

simple temporary vows. As a rule, the Noviciate is made partly at the Mother House.

The Sisters' habit is a simple-shaped black dress with long sleeves. The guimpe is of white linen, and a black veil is worn by Choir Sisters. The Nuns wear on their breasts as part of their dress a small silver Monstrance in honour of the Blessed Sacrament.

Establishments :—

At the dawn of the recent persecution, the Congregation counted some eighty-five Establishments in France. In Italy they have three Convents, two of which are at Carpineto and were founded by Pope Leo XIII, one for the education of children, and the other as a hospital for women.

In England they have Convents at: 35 Brompton Square, S.W.; Leicester Place, W.C., London; Jeune St., Cowley Road, Oxford; Walpole Road, Brighton; Tunbridge Wells; The Towers, Beeding.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior of any of above Convents.

Sisters of the Most Holy Saviour *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The chief objects of the Congregation are, after the personal sanctification of its own members, the education of youth in elementary and industrial schools, the care of the sick in hospitals and in their own homes, the direction and care of orphanages, asylums, homes for the aged poor, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must enjoy good health and be of a determined mind to devote their lives to the service of God and that of their neighbour. Preparatory training, although desirable, is not conditional for admission. Young and talented postulants will qualify for teaching or nursing. The best age to enter the Society is from eighteen to twenty-four.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry varies according to Candidate's circumstances, age and qualification.

* This Congregation, also known as "Sisters of Niederbronn," was founded at the said locality in the Diocese of Strassburg in the year 1849 by Elizabeth Eppinger. It spread rapidly and Establishments were founded successively in Alsace, Austria, Bavaria, Belgium, France, and Germany. The Society has counted as many as 2000 Religious with Convents in no less than 25 Dioceses of various countries.

The *Lauda* was received from the Holy See in 1863, and three years later in 1866, the Congregation was finally approved.

Poverty will debar no Candidate, if otherwise well recommended, from admission into the Congregation.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are probationers from one year to sixteen months. This time is followed by the Clothing and a Noviciate lasting from one to two years. The Sisters take simple vows, to which is added at profession the solemn promise to devote their lives to the service of the sick and poor.

The habit consists of a black dress with cape, a white coif covered by a black veil.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Kloster vom Allerheiligsten Erlöser, Niederbronn, Unter-Elsass.

Other Establishments :—

In addition to the above there are also Noviciate Houses at Würtzburg (Elbachergasse) and Wien VII (Kaiserstrasse).

For Application or further information apply to :—

General-Oberin (Mother House as above) or the Superior of any of the houses.

Sisters of the Most Precious Blood *

(Commonly called Adorers of the Most Precious Blood)

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters of the Most Precious Blood com-

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* The Congregation of Adorers of the Most Precious Blood was founded at Acuto, in the province of Frosinone, Italy, towards the middle of the nineteenth century by the Venerable Mother Maria de Maillas and Blessed Caspar del Bufalo, the founder of the Fathers Missionaries of the same title. The Congregation, chiefly educational in its object, spread with such remarkable success that at Mother Maria's death in 1866 as many as fifty-six foundations had been made in Italy, including five in Rome, where the Congregation has its headquarters. Many other flourishing educational Establishments for middle and upper classes or charitable Institutions such as Orphanages, Homes, etc., had then, and more have since, been founded in Sicily, Germany, and America.

In England the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood have held for many years renowned Establishments at West Brompton, S.W., and Wardour (Salisbury), the foundation of Lady Arundell, in 1874.

The Holy See warmly approved of the Congregation, and the *Lauda* was received in 1855.

An offshoot of the above is the Congregation of "*Sisters of the Precious Blood*" (educational) founded by the Rev. Hermann Kessler in 1857 at Curtweil, Baden. At the request of Bishop Junker of Alton, the Community made a first American foundation at Belle Prairie (Piopolis) in 1870 which has been succeeded by a number of others (see *American Directory*). This Congregation numbers at present (1912) some 200 professed Religious.

A Congregation, chiefly contemplative, under the same title and with similar objects was founded at Hyacinthe (Canada) in 1861 by Bishop La Rocque assisted by Mother Catherine. The Congregation has two classes of Sisters, choir and lay; all are bound by perpetual vows. The habit of the former is white with a red scapular, that of the latter black. The Noviciate lasts two years for all.

The Congregation has many branch houses with its Mother House at St. Hyacinth, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

The Congregation called "*Daughters of the Precious Blood*" was

bine the contemplative with the active life. Its objects are the perfection and salvation of its own members by the observance of the Religious life; the Adoration of the Most Precious Blood, and the perfection and salvation of their neighbours by works of education; the care of orphans or similar charitable labours.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good and reliable health is requisite; tendencies to bodily or mental infirmities are impediments to admission.

Candidates must also be of a respectable parentage, of legitimate birth, have a good reputation and a solid Religious vocation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In the case of Choir Postulants a pension of one shilling per day during the first two years and for Lay Sisters during the first three months is demanded. In addition to this Choir Sisters are expected to bring a dowry of £50, and intending Lay Sisters £12 10s. Exceptions, however, may be made in the case of a poor but well recom-

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founded at Sittard (Holland) in 1862 by Maria S. Spiehermans. The Sisters devote themselves to the education of girls and the care of the sick poor, assisting the Missionary Fathers of the Holy Ghost in German East Africa.

The Mother House of the Congregation is in Köningsbosch, near Roermond, Holland, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

mended Candidate, especially if holding a certificate for teaching or if qualified in some other useful branch of industry or learning.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the ages of sixteen to twenty-five. Candidates above that age require a dispensation from the Holy See. To have worn the habit of some other Congregation or to be a widow is an absolute impediment to reception.

Preparatory training :—

A Candidate for becoming a Choir Sister should be on the whole well educated and, unless certificated on entrance, should be able and prepared to study and obtain a certificate.

For Lay Sisters nothing special is required; their chief occupation is manual work.

Certificates and References required :—

An aspirant must produce: Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation; references from the clergy regarding herself and her family.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term of Noviciate, including the postulation extends over two years. The Clothing takes place previous to entering the Noviciate, which always lasts a canonical

year, and is followed by first temporal then perpetual profession.

The Sisters' habit is of black serge. They wear a cape of the same material and a red sash. The guimpe, binder and coif, which has a frilled border, are of white pleated linen, over which they wear a short black veil.

Future Employment :—

Employment is given according to capability and requirements either in schools, colleges, orphanages or in domestic duties.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Via San Giovanni in Laterano 64, Roma.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation has many establishments, both on the Continent and across the Atlantic, and is divided into Vicariates respectively. See Catholic Directories.

The Province of Austria has its Mother House with Noviciate at : Kloster Nazareth, Banjaluka, Bosnia.

In America (U.S.) two Vicariates with headquarters at : Alton, Illinois, and Buma, Illinois.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General, Rome ; or Mothers Superior of above Convents respectively.

Sisters of Notre Dame des Missions*

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The original and chief object of the Congregation is, in addition to self-sanctification, to extend the blessings of the Catholic Faith and education to the infidel or heathen nations. In Europe the Sisters are engaged in the conducting of schools, orphanages and similar works of charity.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must be of sound and healthy constitution. An un-

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* The Congregation claims as foundress Mother Mary of the Sacred Heart, *née* Euphrasie Barbier. Educated by the Sisters of Providence, she entered and made profession in the then flourishing French Community of the Incarnate Word. Having been sent to London, she, along with other members of the Community engaged herself, under the direction of the Oratorian Fathers, in educational, orphanage and other works of charity. The Community thus declined from its original object, viz. that of a Missionary Society. In the course of time the Marist Fathers appealed to the Congregation for Religious willing to assist them in their Missionary labours in Oceania. Mother Mary promptly responded and with the permission of the Holy See made a first foundation of Sisters of Notre Dame des Missions at Lyons France) in the year 1861.

In due course the renowned Mother House on Fourvière Hill, near Lyons, and other branch Establishments were founded in France. America, Australia, New Zealand, India, Switzerland and England. In these Islands, the Congregation has at present Establishments at Deal, Hastings and Sturry, in which they engage chiefly in educational works. The Rule of the Congregation is that of St. Augustine with Constitutions adopted to suit its extensive undertakings.

The latter were approved by the Holy See and confirmed by Pope Leo XIII in 1890.

blemished character and good dispositions for the Religious life are also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dowry is required in addition to a good outfit, especially in the case of a Candidate wishing to be a Choir Sister. Should, however, a postulant, unable to bring a dowry, furnish the Congregation with great advantages, the question of a dowry may be to a certain extent dispensed with.

Lay Sisters may be admitted without a dowry but they are expected to bring a good outfit and to have a fixed determination to devote themselves to the service of God as the Superiors may direct.

Age of Candidates :—

By Rule postulants should not be under seventeen and not over thirty years of age. Candidates for the place of Choir Sisters and needing training should apply young.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates are to furnish : Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation ; medical certificate of health. Testimonials of previous training, if any. References from the clergy bearing upon the Candidate's personal character, her family and her vocation.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term of Noviciate, including postulantship, extends over about three years. The Clothing is preceded by the "call" of admission into the Noviciate, at the end of which the novice takes the three simple vows of Religion. These vows are annually renewed for three years in succession, and then they are made perpetual.

The Sisters' habit is black with a scapular of the same material. The sleeves of the habit are bound with blue. The coif, bandeau and collar are of white linen, over which they wear a black veil. At Religious ceremonies or out-of-doors they wear a long black cloak over their habit.

The Lay Sisters' habit is similar, with the exception that the habit-sleeves and scapular are bound with black instead of with blue, and their cloak and veil are rather shorter.

Future Employment :—

Choir Sisters, daily recitation of the Little Office of Our Lady, Teaching, Missionary or other works of Charity as stated already under "Object of the Congregation." Lay Sisters are, as a rule, employed in domestic work.

Establishments :—

The Sisters of Notre Dame des Missions

have establishments in various countries (see footnote and Catholic Directories respectively).

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superior, The Convent, West Street, Deal.

Other countries as above.

Sisters Capuchinesses of Perpetual Adoration *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation is essentially contemplative, and has for its chief objects the Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament exposed day and night, in a spirit of Reparation, Celebration of the Divine Office, penance, intellectual and manual work, etc.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidate's health must be sufficiently good to support the Community life. For Choir Sister a good education (knowledge of music and languages being very desirable) and ability to read Latin fluently is required.

Pecuniary means, age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five, and the Candidate's property or heritage is accepted as dowry.

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* It is owing to the endeavours of Pater Bonifatius Söngen, O.C., and Bishop von Ketteler that the Congregation was founded in Mainz (Germany), in the year 1860.

A first Congregation of Sisters under the same title, also known as "Daughters of the Passion," was founded in Naples (Italy) by the Venerable Mary Laurence Longa in 1538, and others in succession in Rome, Monte Cavallo, in 1575; in Paris, Rue St. Honoré, in 1604 : Marseilles in 1625. Owing to the fateful Religious persecution in France the exiled French Capuchinesses opened a House with a Noviciate at Vaals (Holland) in 1904.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has Convents at Mainz, Gymnasialstrasse 7; Pfaffendorf, near Coblenz, Germany; Salzburg, Austria; Altdorf, Appenzell, Freiburg, Lucerne, Rorschach, Stans, Wonnenstein, Wattwil, Zug, etc., Switzerland.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mutter Oberin, Kloster der Kapuzinerinnen (above Houses respectively).

Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The primary and special objects are the sanctification and salvation of its own members by the observance of the Religious life, the instruction and education of youth in orphanages, boarding schools and elementary and higher day schools. The members of the Congregation devote themselves also to embroidery,

* The Congregation of Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus is the blessed outcome of a charitable Society for destitute children founded by some pious ladies at Aix-la-Chapelle (Aachen, Germany) in the year 1837. An "Industrial School" was first opened in what had formerly been a Dominican Convent, and encouraged by its success and by the Ecclesiastical Authority some of the members of the Society resolved to live in Community and to take Religious vows in order to attend better to the needs of poor children and more effectively to sanctify themselves. Misses Clara Fey and Léocadie Starz may be considered as the chief foundresses, the former of whom (Mother Clare in Religion) was chosen first Superioress of the Congregation in 1848.

The new Congregation grew with such a remarkable success that from 1850, the year of profession of the first six Sisters, up to the disastrous Kulturkampf in 1873, some thirty Establishments, twenty-three of which were in Germany, had been founded, the number of the Religious totalling about 700. All their houses but one, that at Burtscheid for old and infirm Sisters, were now abolished. But the persecution only kindled the Religious spirit and added to the success of the Community by causing it to spread meanwhile into other countries. When they were permitted to return the Sisters were able to re-open a number of their old houses in Germany and founded new ones such as ladies' boarding schools, training colleges for teachers, etc.

The Rule of the Congregation is modelled upon those of St. Augustine and St. Francis of Sales, with Constitutions to suit its object.

The Holy See definitely approved the Congregation in 1888, the *Lauda* having been received as early as in 1862.

Church work, and similar works of zeal and charity.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must be healthy and well recommended for their dispositions for the Religious life.

They must also be of a respectable parentage and free from any symptoms of hereditary disease.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

By Rule a dowry according to circumstances is required in addition to a good and suitable outfit. The dowry, however, may be dispensed with, especially in cases of Candidates qualified for teaching.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five. After the age of twenty-five a Papal dispensation is required.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Sister, to have had a higher education and to be even qualified for teaching is desirable, but this can also be gone through, or continued and completed in the Congregation according to the qualifications and talents of the postulants.

For Lay Sisters nothing special is required.

Certificates and References required :—

Candidates are required to produce: A certificate of Baptism, an attestation of health from a qualified physician, and testimonials of conduct from respective parish priest or Institute.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession:—

The term is two years of Noviciate for Choir and Lay Sisters, one year of which is to be spent in the house of Noviciate.

The Clothing takes place after a postulation of three months at least. At the end of the two years' Noviciate, simple vows are taken first for three years, and then for life.

The Sisters' habit and veil are black. The scapular, girdle and Rosary are white. On solemn occasions a white mantle is worn over the habit.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

House Loreto, Simpelveld, Limburg, Holland.

Other Establishments :—

The Mother House has, besides, a Noviciate, an orphanage, a day school, and an establishment for embroidery of vestments and all kinds of Church linen. The Church embroidery of this Society is famous throughout the world.

There are at present two houses of the Congregation in England, one at Southam near Rugby, Warwickshire, and one at North Finchley, London. There are other houses in Germany, Austria, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxemburg.

There are at present three Noviciates, one at Vienna for Austria, one at Maastricht for Holland, and one at the Mother House at Simpelveld, on the frontier of Germany, for Germany and the other countries.

An English Noviciate is about to be established.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother General, House Loreto, Simpelveld, Limburg, Holland.

England : Mother Superior at Southam or North Finchley.

Sisters of Providence of the Immaculate Conception *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The members of the Congregation, whilst engaged in their own sanctification by the observance of the Religious life, devote themselves to various works of external charity, such as the education of the young, the direction of orphanages, the care of hospitals, asylums, prisons and similar institutions.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission into the Congregation must enjoy fairly good health, be free from any earthly ties, have a good reputation and be well recommended for their dispositions for the Religious life.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry demanded for admission varies according to family circumstances and the Candidate's personal means. In cases where a training is wanted the postulant is expected to defray, in part at least, the expenses thereof. Exceptions, however, are made in special cases.

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* The Congregation began to form itself in the year 1833 at Jodoigne, Belgium, but was definitely established by Mgr. Canon J. B. Victor Kinet at Champion near Namur, in 1836.
The *Lauda* was received from Rome in 1858, and subsequently the Holy See definitely approved of the Institute.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted from the ages of eighteen up to about twenty-eight.

Preparatory training :—

To have been trained for teaching or nursing is useful but not conditional for admission. Candidates will be trained according to ability and age to fit them for the various works undertaken by the Congregation.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation.

References from the parish priest, spiritual director, Institute, or employers.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

The term of Noviciate varies but is never less than one canonical year, and is preceded by some months of postulancy. At the end of the Noviciate the vows are made, first temporary and then for life.

Postal Address of Mother House :—

Sœurs de la Providence de l'Immaculée-Conception, Champion, près Namur, Belgium.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation counts some two hundred Establishments, nearly all of which are in Belgium. To the largest number of their

Convents are attached either boarding and day schools or Communal free schools, (some 120). They have also several Establishments in Italy and in South America. See Catholic Directories respectively.

In England they have a Convent at Haverstock Hill N.W.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Convent of Providence, 198 Haverstock Hill, N.W.; or the Mother House as above.

Sisters of Providence*

(Sisters of the Institute of Charity)

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Object of the Institute :—

The objects of the Institute are : the personal sanctification and salvation of its own members, the exercise of all works of charity such as educating and instructing the poor, visiting the sick, the care of Confraternities for children and young women, spiritual Retreats and other similar work. In England the Sisters are chiefly engaged in teaching in elementary and secondary schools.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants must be healthy in body and mind. It is also required that they be well recommended for their character, respectability and dispositions for the Religious life.

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* The Sisters of Providence, also known as Sisters of the Institute of Charity, or Rosminian Sisters, were founded by the Venerable Abbate Antonio Rosmini assisted by Giovanna Antonietti in Northern Italy about the year 1830. The Congregation is the female branch of the Order of Rosminian Fathers (see *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I).

This Institute, whose central quarters are at Borgomanero near Novara (Italy), is governed by the General of the Rosminian Fathers. The various Provinces are under the direction of the Mother Provincial, and the houses are subject to the local Bishop of the Diocese.

In 1844, at the request of Lady Arundell, a foundation was made in England where, with their headquarters at Loughborough, they have now several houses with elementary and secondary schools attached to them.

Pope Gregory XVI approved of the Institute in 1839.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Congregation demands no fixed dowry, but Candidates are expected to contribute according to their means, especially when a training is required.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the age of about eighteen upwards.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. References from the parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

The Noviciate, exclusive of postulancy, lasts two years. The vows are at first taken for a time only and may be taken for life later.

Postal Address of Mother House :—
Borgomanero, Novara, Italia.

English Province : Convent of the Sisters of Providence, Loughborough.

Other Establishments :—

The Institute has a number of branch houses in Italy and several in England. Their

chief English houses in addition to the above are at : 28 Ely Place, London, E.C.; Cardiff; Rugby; Bromyard; Ledbury; Whitwick; Bexhill-on-Sea, etc.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superior, Convent of the Sisters of Providence, Loughborough.

Sisters of the Retreat of the Sacred Heart *

(Known as "Society of Mary")

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation has for its primary and chief object to provide spiritual Retreats for women of every age and all classes of society. The Sisters also undertake the education of young children and also of girls of the higher classes, for whom they

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* The Venerable Père Eude de Kerlivio, assisted by the Rev. Vincent Huby, S.J., may justly be considered to have, by Divine inspiration, laid the foundation of distinct houses for Retreats so salutary to all classes and to either sex of Society.

Not without trials of every description a first and eminently successful Retreat house for men was opened about the middle of the seventeenth century at Plumergat in the Diocese of Vannes in Britany, France. Encouraged by its success an Establishment for lady Retreatants, the first of its kind, was specially founded in the year 1672 in the same Diocese by l'Abbé Kerlivio and Mlle. Francheville, and successively similar houses were opened in neighbouring Dioceses.

In 1821 the Association of directresses of the Retreat house at Redon, in order to give stability to their salutary work and to increase more advantageously their spiritual fervour, solicited the sanction of the Church for the formation of a Religious Community bound by vows.

The new Religious Community was canonically established in 1823 under the title of "Society of Mary." Owing to their special consecration to the Sacred Heart and to the propagation of the devotion thereof the additional title "Of the Sacred Heart" has been added.

At an early date, the Congregation extended its sphere of work to the education of youth chiefly of the upper class.

Rome finally approved the Congregation in 1909.

The Congregation of "*Sisters Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary*" (educational) was founded at Monroe, Michigan, U.S.A., in 1845 by Père L. Gillet, C.SS.R. The Community is active in several Dioceses (see *American Directory*) and counts (1912) about 1200 Sisters. The Mother House is at Villa Maria, Westchester County, Pennsylvania, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

have established day and boarding schools respectively.

Health and respective qualifications :—

To be of very weak health or to be notably defective in body or mind is an obstacle to reception. Candidates must be well recommended for their character and Religious vocation.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

It is customary for Choir Postulants and Novices to pay a pension of £2 10s. per month during the time of their postulation and Noviciate. A fairly large dowry (£400) is required for a Choir Sister. The Mother General of the Congregation taking circumstances, training, ability, etc., into consideration, will apply to Rome for a dispensation in the case of a poor Candidate unable to pay a dower as fixed by Rule.

Lay Sisters are admitted on easier terms, but to be of robust health is essential.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are accepted from the age of sixteen up to thirty ; above that age a dispensation must be sought from Rome. Would-be Choir Sisters and those intended for teaching but not as yet qualified should not be over twenty-five.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth (double copy from the

Registry Office), Baptism and Confirmation. References from the clergy of the parish and other reliable testimony bearing upon the Candidate's character and vocation should be produced.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate extends over one canonical year and is preceded by at least six months of probation. By Rule the Clothing is to take place upon entering the Noviciate. The first vows are simple and taken temporarily; perpetual Profession may be made after about six years of Religious life.

The Sisters wear a habit, cape and veil of black, the wimple is of white muslin.

Establishments :—

The Mother House and Noviciate of the Congregation have ever been at Angers, Maine-et-Loire, France, whither the head-quarters were transferred from Redon at an early date. It counts at present eight branch houses in France. In Belgium the Congregation has two houses at Brussels.

In England it has Establishments at Burnham; Weston-Super-Mare; Clevedon, Somerset; Clapham Park, London, S.W.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House, La Retraite, 22 Rue Saumuroise, Angers; or

England: Mother Superior (any of the above English Houses).

Sisters of the Sacred Hearts and Perpetual Adoration *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The primary and chief object is reparation. The Community has four classes of Religious—the Nuns who devote themselves chiefly to the education of youth, both rich and poor, in boarding, day and poor schools ; the Choir Sisters who carry on the Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ; the Lay Sisters who perform the domestic duties, and the Oblate Sisters, or Associates.

Health and respective qualifications :—

The health of a Candidate must be good enough to support the Community life and to become a useful member of the Community.

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* A Congregation of Sisters of the Sacred Hearts was first founded in 1797 at Poitiers (France) during the Commune by the saintly priest and confessor of the Faith Pierre Coudrin and Mlle. Henriette Aymer, who became the first Superioress of the now widespread Congregation. This Community formed the women branch of the Society of Fathers of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, also called Picpus Fathers (see *Vocations for Men*, Vol. I) from the name of their Establishment and that of the street in Paris. The first school for poor girls was opened by five professed members at Poitiers about the year 1800. The Holy See approved and confirmed the new Congregation in 1817 and in 1825 respectively. The Rule is based on those of St. Benedict and of St. Ignatius, and Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in reparation and expiation for all insults offered to God and His Holy Church is carried on in many of their Convents.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Although by Rule a dowry is required for Nuns and Choir Sisters, yet it is not made essential, provided Candidates give satisfaction otherwise. It belongs to the Superioress of the Congregation to settle the material points and she will take age, training and ability as well as circumstances into consideration.

Age of Candidates :—

The best age for would-be Nuns or Choir Sisters to apply is from eighteen up to twenty-seven. Candidates for Lay Sisters or Oblates may be above that age.

Preparatory training :—

For Nuns and Choir Sisters a good elementary education at least is required. Superior training and qualifications, although desirable, are not made conditional, and postulants will receive a training to fit them for their future work.

Certificates and References required :—

For Nuns, Choir and Lay Sisters nothing is required beyond the usual Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation, and good references from the parochial clergy.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

After a time of at least six months as proba-

tioners, postulants receive the habit and begin their Noviciate which extends over two years. The vows made by all except the Oblate Sisters, are simple and temporary for several years.

The Sisters' habit, cape, girdle and scapular are all white. They wear a white veil over a muslin cap, and either a white mantle with a train in choir, or a red one for Adoration as the case may be.

Establishments :—

The Mother House of the Congregation with its chief Noviciate has ever been at Paris. At the dawn of the disastrous French Religious persecution in 1903 it counted some twenty-five branch houses in France. They have also a few Establishments in Belgium and Spain, several in South America and Oceania, and one in England, at Weymouth.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Convent of the Sacred Hearts, Carlton Road, Weymouth.

For others see Catholic Directories.

Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Mary *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation devotes itself almost exclusively to the education of youth of all classes. The Sisters have the management of parochial day schools, night schools, poor schools and industrial schools. Orphanages are also conducted by the

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* The Congregation claims a founder and a foundress : l'Abbé Gailhac and Madame Cure. A first foundation was made at Béziers in the Diocese of Montpellier (France) in the year 1848, and this has remained the Mother House of the Institute.

A Congregation also called "*Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Mary*" was founded by Mgr. Menjaud, Bishop of Nancy and Toul, assisted by l'Abbé Masson, in the year 1842, with the object of protecting and safeguarding factory and country women and girls. This Community has two classes of Religious: the Sisters of the white veil, who devote themselves chiefly to giving instruction both of a religious and of a domestic character; the Sisters of the black veil, who perform the domestic and external works. Their vows are annual but may be made perpetual after eight years of Religious life.

A Congregation of a similar title also had been founded by Rt. Rev. Mgr. A. Arbaud, Bishop of Gap, in 1835. This Community, originally enclosed, devotes itself almost exclusively to the education of youth.

The "*Institute of Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart*," with objects and constitutions similar to the above, was founded at Baltimore (Maryland) in 1890 by Mme. Hartwell, who previous to her conversion to the Catholic Faith, displayed zeal and devotion in external works of charity. Originally the promising Congregation devoted itself to missionary and catechetical labour exclusively among the coloured race, from which work, as an exclusive field of labour, they were dispensed in 1895. In 1897 the Sisters opened a school for deaf-dumb, the first Catholic Institution of its kind in the province of Baltimore. This was followed by other foundations, viz. Porto Rico, New York, Trenton, etc. See *American Catholic Directory*.

Congregation, and if required the Sisters visit and tend the sick.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good and reliable health is essential for admission. A solid and well recommended vocation for the Religious life is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A pension is to be paid, by Rule, during the postulation and Noviciate. Candidates, Choir Sisters especially, are also expected to bring a dowry according to their circumstances.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted between the ages of seventeen and twenty-seven for Choir Sisters, and up to about thirty for Lay Sisters.

Preparatory training :—

Choir Sisters, if not qualified already for teaching, must have an education and ability for study such as to be able to acquire the requisite accomplishments.

For Lay Sisters nothing special is required.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation. References and testimonials from

the clergy and Institute or school respectively.

Time of Noviciate and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts about two years and is preceded by several months of postulancy. The Sisters take the three Religious vows first for five years and then for life.

The Choir Sisters' habit consists of a blue serge dress, a white linen guimpe, and a long black veil. The habit of Lay Sisters is black ; they wear also a black veil.

The Rule is modelled upon that of St. Augustine with Constitutions to suit the object of the Congregation.

Establishments ;—

The Congregation has Establishments in France, in Portugal, in America and in the British Isles.

In England there are Convents of Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Mary at : Seafield House, Great Crosby ; Barrow ; Blackbrook.

For others see Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior of any of above houses.

Sisters of St. Ann *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Sisters devote themselves to all works of charity, viz. rescuing the poor and abandoned, attending the sick, having the care of orphanages, etc., and teaching the young.

Health and respective qualifications :—

General good health and a dowry according to circumstances are required.

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* Mme. Marguerite Adélaide d'Imbert founded this Congregation in 1829 at Feugarolles (France), which foundation has remained to be the Mother House of the Institute. At the dawn of the fateful Religious persecution in France in 1903 the Congregation counted some thirty Establishments, which since then, owing to the prohibition against Religious teachers, have been reduced (in 1912) to the number of twelve.

A Congregation under a similar title with more extended objects but restricted with regard to Candidates' ages was founded by the Bishop of Montreal (Canada) in the year 1850 at Vaudreuil. The Mother House of this Institute is at Lachine, P.Q. Canada, with three Provincial Houses and a Noviciate at Victoria, B.C. This Congregation has also a Provincial House at Marlboro', Mass., in the United States, and conducts Establishments dependent upon Lachine in the Dioceses of Boston, Albany, Providence, Springfield, U.S.

The Congregation of "*Sisters of Providence of St. Anne*" was founded at Turin in 1834 by the Marchesa Giulia Falletti di Barolo. The Institute, which devotes itself to the care of children and the sick, received the warm approval of the Holy See in 1848. They have Establishments in Italy: Assisi, Bagnorea, Castelfidardo and Rome (two Infant Asylums, Via dei Gracchi and Via Conde); in India: Secunderabad (school for European and Eurasian girls), Kazipet; in Africa: Eritrea (home for children redeemed from Slavery). The Mother House is at Florence, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

The Institute was chiefly founded for poor and tardy vocations, *i. e.* for those who on account of either poverty or advanced age were unable to gain access into the already existing Religious communities and thus were debarred from following their vocation.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The terms of postulancy and Noviciate vary according to circumstances and rank, viz. of Choir or of Auxiliary Sisters. The vows are simple and taken temporarily, renewable every year.

A simple black dress with large sleeves, and a cornette very similar to that of the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul, complete the habit. Auxiliary Sisters wear a similar habit.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mère Supérieure, Couvent de Ste. Anne, Feugarolles, Lot-et-Garonne.

Sisters of St. Clotilde *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Religious of St. Clotilde are exclusively devoted to the work of Education.

Health and respective qualifications :—

The health of a Candidate must be sufficiently good to support the Community life and to become a useful member. To be of a respectable parentage and of sound judgment is also required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Choir Nuns are expected to bring if possible a dowry of £400 in addition to a trousseau.

For Lay Sisters, all that is required is a trousseau, if possible.

Exceptions are made in favour of Candidates offering educational advantages such as Training or Degrees.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from the age of sixteen up to thirty. A dispensation is

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* The Congregation of Sisters of St. Clotilde, which is of French origin, is the happy and desired outcome of a boarding school for young ladies founded by Madame Desfontaines in 1796. It was not until the year 1821 that the Congregation was canonically established. The Mother House and Noviciate have been for many years in Paris with branch houses at home and abroad (see Establishments).

required for persons over thirty years of age.

Preparatory training :—

For Choir Nuns, Candidates should have had a sufficient education to obtain teaching certificates if possible, which must be prepared for after admission if not already obtained before.

For Lay Sisters, efficiency in domestic duties or aptitudes for same.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation, are required, as well as a medical certificate of health.

References from the spiritual director and the parish priest.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

For Choir Nuns the term is six months' postulancy ; for Lay Sisters, one year. Part of this time is spent in a house of the Congregation, and part in the Noviciate house.

The Clothing of both Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters takes place after the postulancy: When clothed both Choir Nuns and Lay Sisters remain two years novices, after which time they are admitted to temporary vows for three years and are sent to the

different houses. The profession of the *perpetual* vows takes place after three years of temporary vows, *i. e.* five years after the Clothing.

Future Employment :—

Choir Nuns—outside the time consecrated to religious duties—are employed teaching and in all occupations in connection with same.

Lay Sisters—in the performance of domestic duties.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate:—

Mother House, 101 Rue de Reuilly, Paris XII. The Noviciate is at present in Belgium, at Ecaussines Carrières, Hainault.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation of Sisters of St. Clotilde has one house in Switzerland, one in Belgium, four in France, two in England: one at Guildford and one at Eltham (Kent).

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother House or Noviciate as above.

England: Mother Superior, Convent of St. Clotilde, Guildford.

Sisters of La Sainte Union des Sacrés Cœurs *

(The Holy Union of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary)

* * *

Object of the Society :—

The Society devotes itself almost exclusively and successfully to the education of children and girls in every rank of society.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must have good health and aptitude for teaching. In default of the latter, aptitude for manual work is required.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A small nominal dowry is required for

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* The Institute of Sisters of the Holy Union was founded at Douai (France) in 1828 by Father John Baptist Debrabant, priest of the Diocese of Cambrai. The Rules and Constitutions of the Society, modelled upon those of the Visitation Nuns, received Episcopal approbation in 1842, and in 1853 the *Lauda* was received from Rome.

The Congregation spread rapidly over France, with branch houses and schools of all kinds such as boarding, middle, upper, day and poor schools, in Belgium, England, Ireland, North and South America, West Indies, etc. At the dawn of the fateful Religious persecution in France in 1903 the Society counted about 200 houses with over 1500 Religious.

Encouraged by its success and anxious to cope with the wants of the time, the zealous founder instituted also in 1838 a male branch of the Society under the same title and with a similar object. The latter opened a first Establishment in the form of a boarding college at N.D. de la Tombe, near Tournai, Belgium.

admission. Particulars will be supplied upon application.

Age of Candidates :—

The age-limit is thirty years.

Preparatory training :—

See above. Postulants and novices requiring training will receive such as will fit them for their future duties.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation, and medical certificates of health are required. Reference from the parish priest, spiritual director, and Institute of training, as the case may be.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The postulancy extends from three to six months, and is followed by the Clothing.

The Noviciate lasts one canonical year from the date of Clothing, and profession of first vows is made at the end of the year's Noviciate.

The Sisters' habit is almost entirely black.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

The Mother House was transferred from Douai, France, to Tournai, Belgium, at the time of the French persecution and expulsion in 1903. The Society has now

Noviciates in Belgium, England, North America and South America.

The Sisters have Houses with Boarding Schools and Day Schools attached to them in Belgium, England, Ireland, North America, South America, and the West Indies. See Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England and Ireland: The Mother Provincial, The Convent, Highgate Road, London, N.W.

Other addresses as above.

Sisters of the Temple *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation has for its chief object the sanctification and salvation of its own members and that of their neighbour. The Sisters undertake any work of charity conducive to the glory of God, such as making Church vestments, embroidery, etc., and by Rule consecrate themselves to the service and assistance of infirm clergy.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Applicants' health must be sufficiently good to become useful members of the Community. They must also be free from any serious defects and from worldly liability.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Candidates should by Rule bring a good outfit, a dowry according to family circumstances, and they should be able to defray,

* The small Congregation of "Sisters of Our Lady of the Temple" is said to be an offshoot of the Congregation of the Nuns of the Finding of Jesus in the Temple, which Congregation existed in England before the Reformation, and was founded in 1858 at Dorat, Haute-Vienne, in the Diocese of Limoges, France. The Religious observe a Rule modelled upon that of St. Ignatius, and in addition to the three Religious vows consecrate their lives to the service and assistance of the clergy, especially of infirm priests whom they board and attend to in special and convenient Establishments.

The Sisters came to England at the invitation of Cardinal Wiseman in 1861, when they opened their present Establishment at Clifton. In this country the Community devotes itself also to district nursing and to the education of youth.

in part at least, the Noviciate and training expenses.

Age of Candidates :—

Candidates are admitted from the age of eighteen upwards.

Certificates and References required :—

In addition to certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation, Candidates are required to bring a testimony, from the clergy by preference, that bears on their vocation and character.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term is about two years in all before the first profession is made. Candidates are first postulants for three months at least, which time is followed by the Clothing, and final profession may only be made after some years of Religious life.

In addition to the three Religious vows, the Sisters consecrate their lives to the service and assistance of the Priesthood.

The Sisters' habit consists of a blue dress and a white veil.

Establishments :—

The Congregation of Sisters of the Temple have had for many years the domestic management of the ecclesiastical College at Montmorillon, France. At Poitiers and

Dorat they conduct Homes for infirm or retired Clergy. In England they have a similar Establishment at Clifton.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, 1 Rodney Place, Clifton, Bristol.

Other addresses as above respectively.

Sisters of St. Thomas of Villanova *

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Object of the Congregation :—

Originally the Congregation devoted itself almost exclusively and indiscriminately to the care of the sick and infirm in hospitals, asylums, homes, etc. In the course of time the Sisters have rendered service also to the education and training of youth. They conduct orphanages, workrooms, and undertake similar works of external charity.

Health and respective qualifications :—

A fairly good health is required for admission ; also aptitude and ability for teaching, nursing or some other useful branch of work.

The Congregation, very reserved and seemingly undefined in its Rules and Constitutions, has no fixed rules as regards dowry, age, etc. It is reserved to the Superior of

* This Congregation is a branch of the Institute of Hospitalières Augustines, called also after their patron, St. Thomas de Villeneuve, which existed in France previous to the French Revolution. The Institute was originally founded at Bourges, France, by P. Ange le Proust, a Religious of the Order of Eremites of St. Augustine, about the middle of the seventeenth century. A first foundation was made by the opening of the "Hospital de Lamballe," and was successively followed by those at Moncontour, St. Brieuc, Dol, St. Malo, Rennes, Brest, Morlaix, Malestroit, Paris, etc.
The new branch of the Institute largely owes its existence to Pauline Louise de Pinczon du Sel, and has had its headquarters for many years at Aix.

the Community to decide in each particular case.

The Sisters take simple vows. Their habit is black. The head-wear consists of a white *cornette* and *coiffe* over which they wear a black veil out-of-doors.

Establishments :—

In England the Congregation has Convents at Carlisle, Cumberland, and at Kingsbridge, from which further information may be obtained.

Sisters Sodalines of St. Peter Claver *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation's purpose mainly consists in helping and supporting literally and materially the Foreign Missionaries in their works of evangelizing and educating the negroes of Africa.

Health, Pecuniary means, etc., required for Admission :—

Good and reliable health is conditional, and the dowry is fixed according to personal and family circumstances. By Rule a pension is demanded for the time of postulancy and Noviciate, about two years in all, but exceptions are made especially in the case of well recommended and trained Candidates. A very good elementary education is always required ; knowledge of foreign languages is an advantage.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted between the ages of eighteen and thirty, older by exception.

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* The Countess M. Theresia Ledochowska is said to be the foundress of this Congregation, founded in Salzburg in the year 1894.
A Congregation called "Sisters Claverienesses" was founded by Rev. P. Weld of the Society of Jesus, in the Vicariate Apost. of Zambesi with a Noviciate at Graaf-Reynet. The Sisters are devoted to the sick and poor, and have the care and education of native youth.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Madame the Countess M. Th. Ledochowska, Via dell' Olmata 16, Roma, Italy, or Madame the Directress, Post Kasern, bei Salzburg, Austria.

Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The objects are, in addition to the sanctification and salvation of its own members, visiting and tending the sick and the care and education of youth.

Health, age and respective qualifications :—

A fairly good health and above all a true and solid vocation is required. Candidates should not be under seventeen and not over thirty years of age; no special training or qualifications are made conditional for admission.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

By Rule postulants are required to bring a dowry of at least £12 besides being provided with a suitable outfit. The pecuniary condition, however, may be dispensed with in the case of a poor Candidate giving otherwise satisfaction.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term of postulancy is one year, followed by the Clothing and a two years' Noviciate.

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* The Congregation of Sisters of "Our Lady of Sorrows" was founded in Rome in the year 1883 by the Venerable Maria Francisca Streitel.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

Convento della SS. Addolorata, Borgo Sto. Spirito 41, Roma (Italy).

Noviciate for American Subjects : St. Mary's Convent, Marshfield (Wisconsin).

Other Establishments :—

The Sisters conduct sanatoriums and orphanages in several Dioceses on the Continent. In America they have similar establishments in seven different Dioceses. See Catholic Directories respectively.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House as above; Noviciate (America), or the Mother Superior of any branch house.

Sœurs de la Croix *

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The object is a twofold one, self-sanctification

* Founded at Roye (France) in 1625 by the parish priest, the Rev. P. Guérin, for the education of girls of the upper classes, the prospering Community to which the great Revolution was so disastrous was driven into exile and its Establishments in the various cities of France were confiscated. When peace was restored the surviving Religious rallied once more under the presidency of their Superioress at St. Quentin, which Convent struggled on, not without difficulties, for nigh twenty years. To secure its further existence the Community amalgamated with some other Religious Society in 1837. The Constitutions were now revised and the Rule modelled on that of St. Ignatius. The Holy See approved the Congregation in 1899, and the Community hitherto known as "*Dames Réligieuses de la Croix*," adopted the name "Sœurs de la Croix."

A Congregation called "*Sœurs de Notre Dame de la Croix*," with parallel Constitutions and a very similar object, but with a more rigid Rule, was established at Murinais (France) about the year 1833, which foundation has ever remained the Mother House. The Congregation, which received Episcopal approval in 1842, has two classes of Religious, choir and lay Sisters, and their habit, a dress with a cape, is black.

Also, a Congregation of "*Sisters of the Holy Cross*" was founded probably in 1833 by the Sisters Adelaide, Auguste and Octavia of Glaubitz. This Community devotes itself to tending the sick and to the care and education of youth. It directs homes for the deaf and dumb, orphanages, hospitals, workrooms, etc. Candidates find admission between the ages of eighteen and twenty-eight, and the dowry is fixed according to circumstances and ability; by Rule a pension amounting to about £75 should be paid for the Postulation and Noviciate term—about two years in all. The Congregation has Establishments in the Dioceses of Strasburg, Freiburg, Mainz, Rottenburg, Paderborn. The Mother House is at Neudorf, to which applications, etc., should be addressed.

The Congregation of "*Sisters of the Holy Cross*," also known as "Theodosians," from the name of its founder, Theodosius Florentini, a late Religious of the Order of Friars Capuchins, was formed in 1845 when a first batch of five Religious of the School of Menzingen made profession. The Congregation which within ten years of its foundation counted over 100 Religious and a number of Establishments, was in 1855 divided into two branches: the Menzingen

by the observance of the Religious life, and the education and training of youth of elementary and upper classes of society.

Health and other qualifications required :—

Only Candidates of good health and sound judgment, gifted with good dispositions for the Religious and educational life, may apply for admission. A good education is always required, and Candidates who have qualified for teaching in elementary or high schools for ladies are preferable.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry varies according to the circumstances and the training of Candidates. By Rule probationers should pay an annual pension and defray, in part at least, all training expenses. Particulars *re* dower, testimonials and references will be given upon application.

Institute, whose members devote themselves exclusively to the teaching of youth, and the aforesaid Community of the Holy Cross, which devotes itself to tending the sick poor, to the care of orphans, and to other works of external charity. This Congregation has spread over various countries; it has in Switzerland alone some 220 Establishments, and counts now over 2000 Religious. Candidates are admitted between the ages of sixteen and thirty-five, and a pension (£15) should be paid for the term of postulancy, lasting about eighteen months. This is followed by one year's Noviciate. The dower is £20. The Mother House is at Ingenbohl, where the Mother General resides, to which applications, etc., should be addressed. See also "Sisters of the Holy Cross and of the Seven Dolours."

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen to about twenty-eight years of age.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate, which is preceded by some months of postulancy, lasts two years. Postulants receive the habit upon entering the Noviciate. The vows are simple and taken temporarily for five years. At the end of that time a six months' second Noviciate is made in preparation for the perpetual profession.

The Sisters' habit consists of a dress and cape of dark material. They wear a white cap with a frill, and over this is a black veil.

Establishments :—

Besides the Mother House at St. Quentin and a few branch houses in France, the Congregation has Establishments in Belgium at La Louviére ; in England at Boscombe (Bournemouth), Ryde and Southsea. The Sisters are renowned for their high class boarding schools.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mothers Superior as above respectively.

Sœurs de la Croix de St. André*

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation devotes itself without reserve to the teaching and training of youth, to teaching the sick poor, and to all works of mercy productive of God's glory and the salvation of souls.

Health and other qualifications required :—

A Candidate's health must be strong enough to fulfil the duties of the Society's religious life, in which laborious work is required. Although, to have qualified for teaching or nursing, is an advantage, yet a true vocation, a sound judgment and a fixed determination to serve God in the Society are considered of greater value.

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* The Congregation claims a founder and a foundress, both declared Venerable—l'Abbé André Fournet and Mlle. Elizabeth Bichier des Ages. The latter, along with several pious ladies, began in 1804 to devote themselves unreservedly and self-sacrificingly to the Christian education of youth, to tending the sick poor, and to assisting the dying. The trials overcome and the sacrifices made, considered in conjunction with the rapid growth of the Community, are ample proof that the foundation was not man's but God's work. The headquarters were transferred from Molante to Maillé, and from thence to La Puye, the present Mother House. The *Lauda* was received in 1829, and the Holy See definitely approved the Congregation in 1867.

In less than a century from its foundation the Community numbered some 3000 Religious in four provinces with over 400 Establishments in Italy, Spain, Canada and other places.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted between the ages of eighteen and thirty—above that age, only by exception.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Postulants are to bring a dowry according to family or personal circumstances. They should also defray, in part at least, the education and training expenses, and be provided with a good and suitable outfit.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The postulancy extends over three months at least, and the Noviciate over one year. The habit is given previously to entering the Noviciate, which is followed by the taking of simple vows. The vows are renewed annually for five successive years, and then they are made perpetual. Although there are choir and auxiliary Sisters, yet the Constitutions are such that the distinction is merely nominal.

The habit is a black simple dress with large sleeves and a cape of the same material.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has many Establishments in various countries (see footnote) and several Provinces. The Provincial House for Canada is at St. Adolphe, Man.

Sœurs de la Misericorde de Jesus *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation combines the contemplative with the active life. While following the internal spirit of the Community, which consists of prayer, meditation, spiritual reading, the recitation of the Divine Office, etc., the Nuns engage in active works of charity, of serving the poor and tending the sick, etc., for which a nursing hospital is attached to every one of their Convents.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Good health sufficient to follow the Community life and sound judgment are requisite. Candidates must also be well recommended for their character and have good dispositions for the Religious life.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Choir Sisters are expected to pay a

* The Order, which is a branch of the Augustinian Nuns and chiefly intended for the nursing of the poor, was established in France seven or eight centuries ago, the monastery of Dieppe, Normandy, existing before the year 1285.

The Monastery of Dieppe was reformed by the Archbishop of Rouen in the year 1627. The Nuns then took the habit of the Canonesses of St. Augustine, the enclosure was established and the present Constitutions of the Congregation were approved and confirmed in 1665 by Pope Alexander VII.

At the present time it possesses seventeen houses in France, five in Canada, and four in South Africa.

The Community at Waterloo, Liverpool (the only one of the Order in England), was founded in 1902. It is composed of three kinds of Sisters—Choir Sisters, Aggregated Sisters, and Lay Sisters.

pension of £10 per quarter during the time of the Noviciate, which lasts about two years, and to bring a dowry of £500 as a minimum at the time of their profession, or an annual pension if preferred.

The dowry expected for the Aggregated Sisters is £200 (or more).

At the time of the Clothing £20 is charged to the Choir Sisters, £15 to the Aggregated Sisters, and £10 to the Lay Sisters for the religious habit. The Silver Cross given to each Sister at her profession is not included in these charges.

Exceptions may be made to these rules in favour of Candidates without means, or of those of small means, but having a serious vocation.

All postulants must bring an outfit, a list of which will be supplied upon application.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from eighteen years upwards.

Time of Noviciate :—

The Noviciate extends over two years, and may be begun after a postulancy of about six months.

The Rule is that of St. Augustine with Constitutions adapted to suit the needs of the Community. The houses are inde-

pendent of each other, each having its own government and Noviciate.

There are three classes of Religious in each Community :—

a. The Choir Sisters, whose principal duty is nursing. If not trained nurses before entering the Community, postulants are not debarred from entering the Noviciate, but they may have to undergo a course of training in the Institution, which is given by special doctors.

b. The Aggregated Sisters. These assist the Choir Sisters by attending to outside duties, such as are necessitated by the requirements of the Community.

c. The Lay Sisters, who have charge of all house work.

All the Sisters (the Aggregated Sisters excepted) add to the three ordinary vows of religion, the vow of enclosure.

The habit is of white serge with white linen rochet, a surplice-like vestment, leather belt, white linen wimple and bandeau covering the forehead and eyebrows. The veil is black for the professed Sisters, and white muslin for the novices. A long black cloak is worn in the chapel or choir. The habit of the Lay Sisters is similar with the exception that they do not wear the dress ; they wear skirts and

bodices (white), and their sleeves are narrow, while the Choir Sisters have very wide sleeves.

Both Choir and Lay Sisters when professed wear, hanging round the neck, a silver cross containing relics. While at work they wear large white cotton aprons and sleeves and white muslin veils in the operating theatre.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificate of Baptism, certificate of health given by a doctor, a few addresses for references, and a form, forwarded upon application, filled by applicant.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Hôtel Dieu of Our Lady of Hope, Park House, Waterloo, Liverpool.

Sœurs de Notre Dame du Calvaire *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Calvary has for its chief and interior object to honour Our Lord in His Passion. Externally the Sisters devote themselves to works of charity and mercy ; they have the direction of orphanages, homes for deaf and dumb girls, boarding schools, etc.

Conditions of Admission, etc. :—

The Rule of the Congregation is that of St. Benedict (see Benedictines).

The Sisters' habit is brown with a black scapular.

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* The Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Calvary was founded in 1614 by Madame Antoinette d'Orléans, Religious of the Convent of Feuillantines at Toulouse, France, assisted by a Capuchin, Father Joseph Le Clere du Tremblay. Having acted as coadjutrix to the Abbess of Fontevrault in the reformation of the Order, she founded herself a new Convent under the Rule of St. Benedict, dedicated to Our Lady of Calvary, which Convent after Antoinette's death became a separate Congregation and was finally approved by the Holy See in 1827.

A Congregation under a similar title, "Daughters of Calvary," was founded by Madame Virginia Centurione at Genoa (Italy) in the year 1619. The foundation was made by opening a home for poor and abandoned young women, which Institute received a charitable support especially from Emmanuel Brignole, hence the Communities' surname, "Dames Brignoles." The Society, chiefly active in Italy, devotes itself to rescuing the poor and instructing the ignorant of their own sex. The Daughters of Calvary take no other vows but that of stability. Their habit and veil are of black material.

A detailed prospectus will be submitted upon application.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has several Convents in France, viz. Vendôme, Angers, La Capelle Marival, etc. An orphanage and boarding school for girls of the Greek Rite was opened on the Mount of Olives at Jerusalem in 1897. The Mother House is at Orléans, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

Sœurs de Ste. Julienne *

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Object of the Institute :—

The Sisters of St. Julienne unite the contemplative with the active life. Teaching in schools, training of young women and the fostering of all works of mercy form a large part of the Sisters' external occupation. The Community admits Associates and Aggregates who by their spiritual and material assistance in the movement participate in the many privileges and Indulgences the Institute has been endowed with by Pope Pius IX.

Conditions of Admission :—

The Community admits Candidates from seventeen years upwards. To have qualified for teaching in any branch is an advantage. To be healthy in body and

* His Eminence Cardinal Deschamps is claimed by the Congregation as being their founder. Mlle. Fanny Kestre projected the Society's threefold object : to meet, as far as possible, the need of imparting a good Christian education to youth ; to uphold and encourage people living in the world in the practice of works of mercy towards their neighbour by a living example ; to foster and propagate devotion to and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ; and the offering of prayers for the Pope and the Church. The Divine work was begun in 1855 by the formation in the Parish of St. Gudule at Brussels of Catechetical classes for girls from seven to eighteen years of age. In the following year were founded in succession : the Ladies' Needlework Association, Working Girl's classes, Retreat works and the Blessed Sacrament Guild.

The Institute was canonically approved in 1858, but it was not until the year 1870 that vows also were undertaken by the small Community in addition to (and independent of) its other works.

mind and well recommended for character and Religious vocation is essential for admission. The dowry demanded varies according to circumstances, and all particulars pertaining to admittance will be supplied upon application.

Establishments :—

The Community (Belgian) has a Convent at Antwerp. The Noviciate is at Cortil-Noirmont, whither applications, etc., should be addressed.

Sœurs du Bon et Perpétuel Secours *

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Object of the Congregation :—

The object is a twofold one : the instruction and education of youth, the care of the sick. The Sisters direct orphanages, workrooms, poor schools, boarding schools, and have the care of hospitals, hospices, etc.

Health and other qualifications required :—

Candidates seeking admission should have good health, an irreproachable character, and be well recommended for their Religious vocation.

Pecuniary means and training required :—

In addition to a suitable outfit a postulant is

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* The Congregation was founded at Port-Louis (Mauritius) in the year 1850. It claims a founder and a foundress : l'Abbé Xavier Masuy, a Belgian priest, and Mère Marie Augustine. The Rules and Constitutions were approved by the Holy See in 1882.

The Congregation has spread over several countries. Its chief provinces are ; Roman province with houses at Rome, Giffoni, Cervinaro, Cerreta, Sannite, Naples ; Belgian province, with establishments at ; Cureghem-lez-Bruxelles, Ellezelles, Chastrès, Longlier ; Mauritius province with some twenty branch houses.

A Congregation under a similar title, "*Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help*" was founded at St. Damien (Canada) in the year 1892. This Congregation also devotes itself to the instruction and education of youth, the care of the sick and the aged poor, etc. The Mother House is at St. Damien, Bellechasse Co., P.Q.

A Community under the title of "Daughters of Our Lady Help of Christians" exists at Orbel St., Battersea, S.W. (England). The Community, although small, is perhaps more defined in its Rules and Constitutions than one might judge from the uncalled for reticence which our repeated inquiries have met with in this instance.

expected to defray the Noviciate and training expenses. The dower varies according to circumstances, age, ability, etc. To have qualified for teaching or nursing is desirable but not necessary.

Certificates and References required :—

Applicants are required to furnish : Certificates of Birth, Baptism and Confirmation ; references from the clergy of the parish, spiritual director, Institute of training or previous employer.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates receive as a rule the habit at the end of a six months' postulantship. The Noviciate extends over two years, and is followed by profession. The Congregation has two classes of Religious : Choir and Auxiliary Sisters. The vows are simple and perpetual. The habit of both Choir and Auxiliary Sisters is black. Novices wear a white and professed Sisters a black veil.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has Establishments in several countries, and is divided into respective provinces (see footnote).

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior of respective province or any of their establishments.

Sœurs de Ste. Philomène*

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Object of the Society :—

The Society was founded with the chief object of educating and training poor country children. They also tend the sick in their own homes, and perform all possible works of mercy towards their neighbour.

Conditions of Admission :—

Good health and ability for teaching, nursing, or some useful branch of manual labour, these being the chief means of the Communities' subsistence, are essential.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Postulants are clothed after some months of postulancy ; they then begin their Noviciate, which lasts two years, and is followed by the taking of the three simple vows of Religion.

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* The Congregation was founded in 1835 by Henri Adolphe Gaillard in the Diocese of Poitiers, France. Branch houses were successively opened at Pamproux, Exoudun, in Poitou and in the neighbouring Dioceses, Evreux, Bayeux and Tours. Previous to the recent disastrous Religious persecution in France, the Community numbered several hundred members.

A Congregation of a similar title was founded at La Louvesc (Ardèche) near the tomb of St. Francis Regis, by the Fathers of the Society of Jesus, with the object of giving a good moral training to youth, instructing and protecting factory girls, tending the sick poor, etc. The Mother House, first fixed at Crémieu, was at an early date transferred to St. Marcellin (Isère), in the Diocese of Grenoble.

Establishments :—

The Institute counted a number of houses in various Dioceses (see footnote) with its Mother House at Salvert. But owing to the lamentable Religious persecution and confiscation in France no up-to-date particulars were to hand at the time of going to press.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Mother House or any branch establishments.

The Third Order or Tertiaries *
(Secular)

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Object of the Third Order :—

The Third Order is "a form of life" instituted by St. Francis of Assisi, and approved by the Church for lay people of both sexes, married or single, that they "may more easily obtain eternal salvation" by promising "to observe all the time of their life, the commandments of God and the Rule of the Third Order."

The Rule does not bind under sin, and it is compatible with one's secular duties. Lay associations of this kind are attached also to the Orders of the Dominicans, Carmelites, Augustinians (Austin Friars), Norbertines, and Servites.

Several religious Congregations have been formed, in the course of time out of these

* The end of the Third Order is twofold : in the individual, it aims at his personal sanctity and perfection according to the station, rank, or condition he holds in the world. Considered as a society, it is intended to become, in parishes where a Congregation of the Third Order has been canonically established, a centre or focus of spiritual strength and activity "to revive Christian morality at home and abroad, and further the interests, spiritual and temporal, of the parish."

There are numbers of Lay Tertiaries in almost every parish of the Catholic Church over the whole globe.

The greatest number of Saints canonized since 1523 were children of St. Francis. There are at present more than 4000 Missionaries of the Seraphic Order, worthy followers of their Angelic pattern and Evangelizer, in heathen and heretical countries.

lay Tertiaries, of both sexes, who live in community, and bind themselves by the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Their life is both active and contemplative, and the members occupy themselves in works of charity.*

The Third Order secular is called an Order because "it has its own special Rule, approved by the Holy See, its Noviciate, its profession, and a habit of definite form and material." (Benedict XIII., *Paterna Sedis.*)

Age and other qualifications :—

It is forbidden to admit any one as a member unless he or she be more than *fourteen* years of age, of good morals, of peaceable disposition, and above all, exact in the practice of the Catholic religion, and of tried obedience to the Roman Church and Apostolic See.

Married women are not to be admitted without the knowledge and consent of their husbands: if it is thought this knowledge and consent should in any way be dispensed with, it should only be done with the approval of the spiritual director who is the judge of the conscience of the woman.

Time of Noviciate, Profession, etc. :—

The Noviciate lasts one year for all, at the

* See Franciscans.

end of which postulants make their profession in the hands of the Father Director, Visitor, or any other authorized priest, who is to enter the newly professed Brother or Sister in the register of the Congregation.

Tertiaries that are professed in one association cannot at the same time become a member of some other. (Dec. S.C. Ind. 1893).

Tertiaries Rule, Obligations, etc. :—

a. To observe the laws of God and to obey the Church.

b. To recite daily the office of the twelve *Paters*, *Aves*, and *Glorias*, except when prevented by sickness.

c. To wear the Scapular and Cord (Members who do not wear the Scapular and Cord are deprived of all rights and privileges).

d. Monthly Confession and Communion.

e. To attend the Monthly Meeting.

f. To fast on the vigils of the Immaculate Conception and of St. Francis, in addition to keeping the fasts of the Church.

For Application or further information apply to :—

The Fathers of the respective Orders or to the Clergy of the Parish.

Trinitarian Nuns *

* * *

Object of the Order :—

The Order of Trinitarian Nuns unites the contemplative with the active life. The Religious not only earnestly apply themselves to the perfection and sanctification of their own souls, but also to the perfection and salvation of their neighbours, chiefly by education, the care of the sick, and other works of mercy.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must be of sound mind and body, and they must be well recommended for their irreproachable character and for their Religious Vocation.

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* This Order is the blessed outcome of noble female Associations that volunteered to support spiritually and materially the Trinitarian Order founded in 1198 by St. John of Matha and St. Felix of Valois, with the object of redeeming the Christians that were in slavery under the Moors. Having had previously several Houses in England, Scotland, and one in Ireland, the Trinitarians once more made a foundation in England, Mottendan, Kent, in the year 1224.

One of the Trinitarian Sisters' chief and canonically erected establishments was that at Lyons (France) founded in 1660, and it was followed by a foundation at Valence (Hôtel Dieu) in 1685, which in the course of time became the Mother House of the Order. Other foundations of hospices followed in succession, and the hard and trying days of Revolution only strengthened the spouses of Christ in their fidelity and increased their zeal and unselfish devotedness towards the sick, civil and military, of their hospitals.

From about the beginning of the nineteenth century the nuns have been able to add to their primary object that of educating youth of all classes of society, in which sphere of work the Trinitarian Nuns have become universally renowned.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

For Choir Sisters, by Rule, a dower of about £300 is demanded, but exceptions may be made, especially in the case of Candidates that have qualified for teaching, nursing, or some other useful acquirement. Persons that have been domestic servants may apply to be Lay Sisters only.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted at any age from sixteen upwards. Subjects over thirty years of age, however, giving every satisfaction, will only be admitted after serious consideration.

Preparatory training :—

Although it is desirable that Candidates for Choir Nuns should have been trained and if possible have qualified either for teaching or for nursing, yet this is not essential for admission. Postulants and novices will be trained to fit them for the works undertaken by the Community.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Birth, Baptism, and Confirmation. References from the parish priest or spiritual director.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The term is: Postulancy from six to seven

months, followed by the Clothing. The Noviciate is then entered upon, and it lasts one canonical year at least. The first vows are taken at the end of the Noviciate. They are temporary and annual for the first five years, and after that time they are pronounced in perpetuity.

Postal Address of Mother House :—

Religieuses Trinitaires, Valence, Drôme, France.

Other Establishments :—

The Congregation of Nuns of the Most Holy Trinity counts a large number of houses. In France, owing to the late lamentable Religious persecution, they have to-day the charge of hospitals only. They have numerous establishments in Africa (Algeria); several in Switzerland, in Italy, and in Belgium.

In England they have up to now (1912) two establishments: Freelands, Bromley, Kent; and Elderslie, Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England: Mother Superior Trinitarian Convent, Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

For other addresses see Catholic Directories respectively.

Ursulines *

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Object of the Order :—

The Order combines the contemplative

* The Ursuline Order was founded in the year 1537 at Brescia in Northern Italy by St. Angela of Merici : born at Desenzano in 1470, but surnamed of Merici on account of her long sojourn and saintly death in that city in 1540. Originally known as the company of St. Ursula, this Institute was founded by the Saint chiefly for pious, devout young ladies, who while living in their parental homes, should devote their free time, energy and talents to works of charity towards their neighbour, of which works instructing and teaching young girls should always be the principal. It was not until 1544, four years after the death of the Saint, that her foundation was approved by Pope Paul III as a Religious Congregation under the name of St. Ursula. Subsequently enclosure was made obligatory, the Religious habit was adopted, and the Congregation which grew rapidly under the fostering care and solicitude of St. Charles Borromeo, Archbishop of Milan, was, at the solicitation of this latter Saint, declared a Religious Order under the Rule of St. Augustine, by Pope Gregory XIII in 1572.

This Order, not unlike the great and divinely inspired foundations of St. Augustine, of St. Benedict, and above all of St. Francis, has become the mother-tree of many branch Congregations which have grown up in the course and with the needs of time.

Some of the chief foundations of "Ursulines" more or less identical with the original Order as founded by St. Angela are : The Ursulines of Parma, founded by the Duke of Parma, Farnese, in 1575. The Ursulines of Foligny, founded by Sister Paul Foligny in 1600. The Ursulines of SS. Rufina and Secunda, founded in Rome in 1603. The Ursulines of Dijon, founded in 1619 by Mother Francis de Xaintonge, sister of the foundress of the Company of St. Ursula. See Index.

Ursuline Congregations founded in the nineteenth century : "*Ursulines of Jesus,*" founded in 1802 at Chavagnes, Diocese of Luçon, France, by Marie Louis Baudouin and Charlotte Gabrielle Ranfray de la Rochette. The Congregation is numerous and has many establishments, elementary, upper class, and young ladies' boarding schools, orphanages, hospices, etc., both at home and abroad. The Mother House and Noviciate have ever been at Chavagnes. They have two classes of Sisters, choir and lay ; their habit is black ; the Rules and Constitutions are modelled on

with the active life. In addition to the sanctification and salvation of its own members by the observance of the Religious life, the recitation of the Divine Office, etc., the Ursuline Nuns are renowned for their teaching and training of youth. The Order has the direction and care of schools of every description, and pupils (ladies in upper classes) of every class of society.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Health must be good enough to support the Community life. A good sound education is required of a Choir Sister and, if she is not qualified, ability for teaching or some other useful accomplishment.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The Order has no fixed Rule with reference to the dowry of Candidates. Each case is judged on its own merits. Training, age, and most of all, vocation and respect-

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those of the Dames du Sacré Cœur. For branch houses in Great Britain and Ireland, see *Catholic Directory*.

The "*Ursulines of Thildonck*," founded in 1818 at Liège (Belgium) for the instruction and education of youth. This Congregation is to-day as numerous as the aforesaid, having in all about 1500 Religious choir and lay. Each house is independent, many of them having their own Noviciate. This Institute has spread over Holland, Germany, England, and has also houses abroad.

The "*Ursulines of Londerzeel*," founded in 1837 at Londerzeel, Belgium.

Leo XIII established a "Roman Union," which several houses in Italy, Holland, Belgium, Germany, England (2), have joined. The Generalate is at Via Nomentana, 14, Rome.

ability, are the chief points that will be taken into consideration.

Age of Candidates :—

The Order admits Candidates between the ages of eighteen and thirty. Very rarely, in very special cases would-be Choir Nuns are admitted up to thirty-five years of age.

Certificates and References required :—

Baptismal and Confirmation certificates, also Marriage certificate of parents, and good references either from the clergy or from some other reliable and duly authorized superior.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The terms are : Postulancy from six to nine months followed by the Clothing ; Noviciate, two years.

Establishments :—

The Ursuline Nuns—the Congregation which claims St. Angela for their Mother and foundress—have establishments in nearly every country of the globe.

In England : The establishments that are said to belong to this Congregation are : Dartford ; Dover ; Greenwich, S.E. ; Hythe ; Wimbledon, S.W. ; Westgate. See also *Catholic Directory.*

In Ireland: Blackrock (College and High School); Thurles; Waterford.

In Germany: in the Dioceses of Breslau; Cöln; Paderborn; Trier; Limburg; Fulda; Osnabrück, etc. Also in Bavaria; Saxony; Oldenburg.

In Austria: Wien; Innsbruck; Graz; Prag; Olmütz, etc.

In Belgium, Saventhem (Roman Union), Thildonck, and many others. Also Java and Sumatra (Dutch East Indies), of the Roman Union.

In America: whether of St. Angela's foundation or not we have been unable to ascertain, there are several Institutes in various Provinces with many branch houses, colleges, schools, etc., etc. See respective Directories.

Ursulines, the Company of *

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Object of the Society :—

The "Company of St. Ursula" devotes itself chiefly to teaching elementary and secondary education, and to all works of mercy.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Candidates seeking admission must have moderately good health, without notable physical defects, or hereditary disease.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

A dower is not essential if the Candidate is otherwise acceptable, *i. e.* as regards vocation, health and capabilities.

In the case of Choir Sisters, the usual dowry demanded can be replaced by Teaching Certificates for either Elementary or Secondary Education.

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* The Company of St. Ursula was founded at Dôle (France) by the Venerable Anne de Xaintonge in the year 1606. It was approved and confirmed by the Popes Innocent X and Innocent XI in 1648 and 1678 respectively. The vicissitudes and trials of almost every description that were overcome by the venerable foundress in the carrying out of her inspired project are proof of Heaven's design. She had the happiness of seeing five branch establishments founded within her lifetime, and the "Company" has now several Provinces with Mother Houses and Noviciates and a number of establishments, in addition to those in France, in Germany, Switzerland, and one house in England—Oxford, founded in 1890.

Age of Candidates :—

The Congregation has no strict rule as regards age, and the case of an elderly Candidate is judged on its own merits.

Under thirty is the preferable age for admission.

Preparatory training :—

Would-be Choir Sisters are required to render themselves capable of teaching efficiently, and must either qualify by means of the necessary examinations or give other proof of their efficiency.

The time of study begins about the second year of Noviciate, and, for those who take a University course, lasts about four years.

Certificates and References required :—

Postulants are required to furnish certificates of Baptism and Birth; reference from at least one priest.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The terms are :—

For Choir Sisters: six to twelve months' probation before Clothing.

For Lay Sisters: twelve months' probation before Clothing.

For all Novices: three years' Noviciate. Perpetual vows are taken at the end of that period.

The habit of a Choir Sister is black, with a small black cape and a deep, white linen collar. Their head-wear consists of a black cap, coming to a point on the forehead, and a black veil over it. Lay Sisters wear a much similar habit only that their linen collar is much smaller and the cap is not pointed.

Establishments :—

The Company of St. Ursula has a number of Establishments on the Continent (see footnote).

In England they have made only one foundation up to the present : St. Ursula's Convent, Oxford, which includes the Noviciate of the English Province.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, St. Ursula's Convent, Oxford.

Visitation Nuns *

(In some countries called Salesianesses)

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Object of the Order :—

The Visitation Order, which is essentially a contemplative one, has for its chief object the sanctification and salvation of its own members by enclosure and separation from the world, the solemn celebration of the Divine Office, meditation, etc., and the unfaltering practice of virtues. The Community may, in order, chiefly, to obtain means of subsistence, devote itself to teaching and have the direction of boarding schools, but manual work within the Convent walls, such as embroidery and fancy-work, is preferred by Rule.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Although health may be weak, yet Candi-

* The Saints Francis de Sales and Jane Frances Frémiot (Baroness de Chantal) founded the Congregation, which has become an Order, at Annecy in Savoy (France) in the year 1610. Originally instituted for the care of the sick and the rescue of the poor, the then devoted Association of Virgins and Widows took for their model the Blessed Virgin in her visit to her cousin St. Elizabeth. It was owing to the advice of Cardinal de Marquemont, Archbishop of Lyons, that St. Francis of Sales acceded to the formation of a Religious Order, for which he himself drew up a Rule which is very mild and does not exclude those weak in health, older women and widows. The Order adopted the enclosure in the year 1816, and by Rule each Community should have thirty-three Nuns out of which twenty should be Choir Nuns.

The Order has the honour to count Blessed Margaret Mary Alacoque —the world-famed advocate of the Sacred Heart Devotion— among its members.

dates must be strong enough to support the Community life. By Rule "no obstinate or rebellious, giddy, or frivolous women are to be admitted into the Order."

Age of Candidates :—

The Order has no fixed rule with regard to age. Candidates, however, should not be less than eighteen, and Lay Sisters not much over twenty-five years of age.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

The dowry varies both according to the Convents and to the Candidates' family and personal circumstances. Age, qualification, ability and rank, as well as intention of becoming Choir Nun, Associate, or Lay Sister, will be taken into consideration.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are postulants for a term of six months at least. The postulantship is followed by the Clothing, at which time the novice begins her Noviciate, which lasts never less than one canonical year and is not unfrequently prolonged as the case may demand.

The Order has three classes of Religious; the Choir Nuns who chant the Office daily; the Associate Nuns who are unable to sing the Office; the Lay Sisters who are chiefly employed in household duties.

The habit of the Choir and Associate Nuns is black. The binder across the forehead and veil are also black, but they are of white linen in the case of Lay Sisters, whose habit otherwise is similar to that of the Nuns.

Establishments :—

The Visitation Order has counted as many as over one hundred Convents spread over various parts of the world. America counts now (1912) some twenty-five independent Convents with academies, schools, etc. In these Islands there are Visitation Convents at St. Leonards, Uckfield, Walmer, Caversham, Reading, Harrow.

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mother Superior of any of their houses in each particular country.

Visitation Sisters *

* * *

Object of the Congregation :—

The Congregation has for its primary object the rescue and training of the children of the poor, and the education of youth of all classes of society. The Sisters have the direction and care of schools and charitable Institutions of every description for boys, up to twelve years of age, and girls, rich and poor; of workrooms for girls learning dress or lace making; of cookery and housekeeping schools; of hospitals for the aged poor of either sex, etc.

Health, age and respective qualifications :—

In this Community, like in that of the Visitation Nuns, neither somewhat advanced age nor delicate health are barriers to admission provided that the Candidate is able to support the Community life and to become a useful member of the Community.

* The Congregation is said to have been founded at Ghent about the year 1660 by three Hospital Nurses with the objects of visiting and tending the sick poor and should Providence direct, of instructing poor children. The Community placed itself under the protection of St. Francis of Sales, and hence their schools were called "Sales Schools." The French Revolution in 1797 was disastrous to the promising Institute, but after four years' exile the Religious rallied again : the Rules were now more than ever modelled on those followed by the Visitation Nuns as given by St. Francis of Sales, under whose patronage the surviving Institute had ever stood, and the Community, not enclosed, became chiefly educational, adopting the name of "Sisters of the Visitation."

A true and solid vocation, a good will and perfect submission are all essential, while ability, a preparatory training and qualifications are highly desirable.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

Not unlike the Visitation *Order* on whose Rules the Congregation is based, the dowry varies according to circumstances, age, qualifications, ability, etc. Each case is judged on its own merits.

Certificates and References required :—

Certificates of Baptism and Confirmation ; references, from the clergy by preference, as to character and state of freedom.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

The Noviciate lasts two years at least, sometimes longer, and is preceded by a postulancy of some months. The vows made at the end of the Noviciate are taken first for three years, and should the want of Sisters in branch houses allow it, the aspirant may be detained in the Noviciate house for three years, after which period perpetual vows are pronounced.

The habit of a Choir Sister is a dress with an apron of black material, a binder across the forehead of black silk, a white linen *guimpe* which is straight in front, and a black veil. Novices wear a white veil.

Lay Sisters wear a similar habit, but instead of veil and guimpe they wear a white cap and a large black merino handkerchief.

Establishments :—

With their Noviciate at St. Amand, the Congregation of Visitation Sisters counts some twenty-five Convents, spread all over Belgium, with charity schools or some other charitable Institutions attached to them.

In England they have made a foundation at Bridport, Dorsetshire, where the Sisters conduct a boarding school for boys (from three to twelve years of age) and an orphanage.

For Application or further information apply to :—

England : Mother Superior, Visitation Convent, Pymore Road, Bridport.

White Sisters—African Missionaries *

(Sœurs Blanches de Notre Dame d'Afrique)

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Object of the Congregation :—

The objects are: self-sanctification and salvation by the constant practice of all Christian virtues and the observance of the Religious life; to help to extend the knowledge of God and to save souls by instructing and educating women and children, and to assist in every way possible the sick poor and abandoned of the heathen nations.

Health and respective qualifications :—

Only Candidates of sound judgment and healthy constitution, gifted with good dispositions for the Missionary Religious life may apply for admission.

Pecuniary means required for Admission :—

In addition to a good and suitable outfit Candidates are expected to pay an annual pension of £25 during the term of postulancy and noviciate. The dowry demanded is according to circumstances.

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* The Congregation is the women's branch of the Society of Missionary Fathers under the same title founded by His Eminence Cardinal Lavigerie in 1868 (see *Vocations*, Vol. I). The Holy See has repeatedly approved of the Congregation. The *Lauda* was received in 1887.

Age of Candidates :—

Postulants are admitted from seventeen up to thirty-six years of age.

Time of Noviciate, Clothing and Profession :—

Candidates are probationers for a term of six months. If admitted, postulants receive then the white habit and begin the Noviciate at St. Charles', which lasts one year and a half. The Noviciate is followed by the taking of simple vows renewed annually the five following years. At the end of that time perpetual vows may be taken. In addition to the simple vows all the members of the Society make the solemn promise of stability.

The Sisters' habit, scapular, guimpe and veil are all white. In Europe, when out-of-doors the Sisters wear a mantle and veil of black material.

Postal Address of Mother House and Noviciate :—

St. Charles, Kouba, Algiers.

Establishments :—

The Congregation has establishments and postulancies at : Lyons, Milan, Marseilles, Paris (France), Maastricht, Esch near Boxtel (Holland), Trier, Linz a. Rhein (Germany).

For Application or further information apply to :—

Mothers Superior of the above respectively.

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